

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Parliament House

Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

I am a casual employee, working as a higher education worker, currently earning around 35 per hour.

I have a family and a mortgage.

If penalty rates were abolished, my wife would get less work because it would be cheaper for her employer to put on the permanent staff on the weekends. Also, I believe that the removal of penalty rates would spread to my industry resulting in many of my colleagues being forced to work weekends.

My weekends are important to me because it allows time when the whole family is home together.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as it is very important for the rights of workers in this country.

Submitted by

James Harvey

Thursday 20th of September 2012