

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 permanent employee, working as a nurse, currently earning around per hour.

I have family and commitments like everyone else.

If penalty rates were abolished... I believe it is unfair. I choose not to work weekends so I can have the time with my family. I believe those that do work them are entitled to compensation. It would be arrogant and unethical of me to assume it is alright for someone to give up there weekend without compensation so that I can have mine. If businesses choose not to open because of penalties than so be it.

My weekends are important to me because...I have worked weekends not been able to spend christmas with my family, not able to attend friends weddings, not having a lot of time with my children once they started school. People need to be compensated for

these things.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. This is the ultimate slap in the face for our forebears who have struggled and worked to help us have these benefits so we can provide for a strong and happy Australian future and not the haves and have nots.

Submitted by

Gay Woodhouse

Tuesday 25th of September 2012