

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 32 per hour.

I am a registered nurse and have worked in the public and private sector since 1973. I have raised 4 children whilst working either part-time or full-time, and now my husband and I are nearing retirement. Nursing is a very demanding but rewarding profession. Weekends are often the busiest in the emergency department, and working all night and sleeping in the day is unnatural. Penalty rates are part of what compensate

If penalty rates were abolished it would be very difficult to fill these positions as it is often the pay rate that attracts workers to these positions.

The hospitality and retail sectors are often a very good opportunity for students to support themselves whilst studying and some people may not be able to afford uni if they were paid less

My weekends are important to me because my husband works away monday to friday so i like to have as much time off as possible on the weekend to spend with my husband

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I do not believe we live in a 24/7 society. weekends are still a very important part every one of my family's life as they all have saturday and sunday off. i am the only one who is usually at work

Submitted by

jan maskell

Wednesday 26th of September 2012