

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PO Box 6100

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 boilermaker, currently earning around \$30 per hour.

I earn 80% of our household income. Because of the shortage of tradesmen I am expected to work overtime and weekends. I have 3 kids and I like to spend time with them, I coach my sons football team and we attend AFL games regularly.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would not work weekends, full stop. If I am sacrificing quality time with my family I expect fair compensation for it.

My weekends are important to me because... it is family time.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I believe that one of the causes for

wayward kids is lack of parental supervision. There is much to much weekend work already with penalty rates. Taking penalty rates away will only encourage greedy employers to force vulnerable employees to work over the weekends more frequently. This will leave more young teens unsupervised and free to get up to mischief while home from school. It's a no brainer!!

Submitted by

Michael Woods

Monday 17th of September 2012