

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 Draughtsman, currently earning around \$1040 per week.

I am a married man with three children and a massive mortgage and with the cost of living continuously rising ie essentials like electricity, food etc it is getting much more difficult to make ends meet.

My daughter works in the hospitality industry and I know if penalty rates were abolished it would make a huge difference to her wage and make her future plans ie home ownership raising a family near impossible. She and many others working in industries that rely on penalty rates would be robbed of their future dreams.

My weekends are important to me because I am actively involved in my local

community volunteering in local sporting clubs. Also the weekend is the only time that I can spend quality time with my wife and younger children because of my busy life style ie working and travelling away from home for 13 hours a day 5 days a week to pay my bills and feed my family.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates as it is only fair that people who are expected to work either excessive hours or hours that are outside what the community standard considers normal ie weekends, public holidays etc, deserve to be paid a penalty. Also most people who work on weekends are in low paying jobs and usually don't have a choice and need to make a bit extra money to make ends meet.

Submitted by

Rod macLennan

Tuesday 18th of September 2012