

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 employee, working as a Administrator, currently earning around 55,000 per year.

I do not have family, but I look after an elderly mother and yes I have a mortogage to pay.

I do not work weekends but I have family members who do and they would be greatly disadvantaged if they lost their penalty rates. It is a disgrace to remove these rates, which ensure that people have a decient income and are compensated for working unsociable hours.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. By keeping penalty rates we ensure that employers do not take advantage of employees and ask them to continually work unsociable hours and they are used to a minimum or at least contained. Australians have always enjoyed a good standard of living and working conditions, I believe this is a step backward in ensuring a decent livelihood for Australian workers. Many people who work with penalty rates depend on this extra income to survive and pay their bills, removing them will reduce their standard of living as well as decreasing their incentive to work unsociable hours.

Submitted by

Rosemary Iacono

Thursday 20th of September 2012