

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 Nurse, currently earning around 40 per hour.

I'm a 40 year old single female highly specialised nurse with valuable experience. Major teaching hospital are located in the major cities & therefore I have recently brought a 1 bedroom unit for \$558k, the cost of sydney real estate is having an effect on nursing recruitment & retention.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would not be able to afford my mortgage. I believe I would receive \$300 less each in the hand. I have always done a variety of shift work patterns depending on my position.

My weekends are important to me because...weekends are important for many

reasons, to catch up with friends, to participate in fitness & exercise classes & most importantly family. When relatives have children it is important to catch up with them on non school days, I value visiting my brother, his wife & their two children on weekends. I have missed many social & family events when working weekends, including christmas's, easter's, birthdays & many mothers & fathers days.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I am a highly specialised nurse, I am a valued member of nursing staff. I would have left nursing many years ago if I did not receive weekend shift penalties throughout my career. If weekend shift penalties are removed this will have a devastating impact on the nursing workforce & health care for all Australians.

Submitted by

Ainslie Mansell

Saturday 29th of September 2012