

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 num/cns, currently earning around 39 per hour.

I have a family, both boys are still at school and I have a mortgage. Both boys will be going university over the next two years.

If penalty rates were abolished... I urge all nurses to become casual employees and choose the days they work. There would be no point in working weekends. We can all enjoy weekends with our families and watch sport, go shopping, go to the beach and just enjoy a normal family life. God forbid anyone may be sick and need a nurse at the weekend.

My weekends are important to me because...if I had chosen to be a teacher I would

never have been expected to work at the weekends or over the school holidays. You say we live in a society where weekends are no longer sacred. Lets send our children to school on a weekend to enable all the nurses to see their boys and girls playing sport in the week when we have days off. I feel that until you have lived with shift work all your childs life, you would have no idea of the many disappointments, when we have to say sorry, I cannot be there, I have to work.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. To ensure that the hospitals are fully staffed at the weekends. We have to be somehow compensated for the sacrifices we make to our family life.

Submitted by

Gillian stubley

Wednesday 26th of September 2012