

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 permanent employee, working as a engineer, currently earning around 100 per hour.

family with 3 kids and house with small mortgage

If penalty rates were abolished i would see less friends and family. Life would become one work day after another with no break - sort of like hard labour but with no chance of parole.

My weekends are important to me because my family and i participate in and watch sport. We catch up with friends and family and even go to Church if there is time. I have missed out on countless family gatherings, reunions and other "don't come again" occasions due to work.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates at least and i would suggest to ban shops from opening on Saturday afternoon and Sunday and after 6pm weekdays like it used to be. There is more to life than work. I have spent some time in WA recently and it is so relaxing to have shops not open 7 days a week - i actually felt more human again and less of a machine.

Submitted by

Michael Johnson

Wednesday 19th of September 2012