

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 casual employee, working as a Truck Driver, currently earning around \$24.50 per hour.

I am 52 years of age married with 2 adult children and 1 child currently in year 10 at high school.

If penalty rates were abolished..this would greatly affect the take home income of many people in many industries who rely on overtime and penalty rates to make ends meet. This move would have a huge detrimental affect on the enconomy with many familys losing their disposable income to spend in the very buisenesses that are advocating such a change.

John Howard introduce similar measures to do away with penalty rates and the nation spoke up and remove him and his government from office. So in my opinion the people

of Australia have already had their say on this cutting of penalty rates and it was a resounding NO!!!! So if the Senate choose to go against the wishes of the people a do away with these penalty rates then it shows they have truly stop listening to the people they are supposed to represent.

My weekends are important to me because it allows me to spend time with family and watch them play their sport and interact as a family. The weekend is the only time that all of us can get together as during the week they are either working themselves or attending school.

If people are forced to give up their weekends to work they should be payed more because it means they are often give up spending time doing the things that families often only get the chance to do on weekends. Just last weekend I watched my niece win her netball grand final and watched my elder daughter play in her netball prelimernary final. These are the things that make weekends special.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates for the reasons I have outline above and point out once again the people have already had their say on this issue in the 2007 election. I urge the committee to listen to the people who you are there to represent.

Submitted by

Tony Bell

Wednesday 19th of September 2012