

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 23 per hour.

I am married, renting , saving for a down payment for a mortgage.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would seriously have to look at working a 2nd job, because my income wouldn't support our cost of living without penalties.

My weekends are important to me because...They are so rare! Perhaps once per month I will not work on Saturday and Sunday. These days I attend events with my family only held at weekends.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Especially considering the number of

Australians struggling with increasing costs of living (myself included). Removing penalty rates will simply be kicking us while we are already down!

Submitted by

Stephen Eldridge

Tuesday 25th of September 2012