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 Steveadore, currently earning around 36.00 per hour.

I look after my mum helping out with bills etc if my pay drops I wont be able to help out as much.

If penalty rates were abolished... I'd be working night shift and evening shift during the week and weekends for no more then day shift workers. So while people are at home with family or friends at night and on weekends I'll be working but earning nothing more for it. That's the reason it's called plenty rates. You get paid a bit more for doing these shifts to compinsate missing out on a social life. If you take this way no one will do them.

My weekends are important to me because it's a time to catch up with my partner and friends. With plenty rates I can sometimes take the weekend off work for social events

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. It's what keeps the workforce going. People won't work on weekends or do night shift if they are not getting paid a bit more for it.

Submitted by

Tanya Davis

Friday 14th of September 2012