

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 Student Services Officer, currently earning around 33 per hour.

I am a bachelor with a bachelor's degree. 28 years old and working full-time.

If penalty rates were abolished it wouldn't affect me financially but it would directly affect so many people I know, and I'd be bound to feel some blowback from everyone being poorer and more irritable.

My weekends are important to me because that is when you have the highest concentration of fun stuff. When I moved from working in retail & hospitality to student services, the most noticeable change - and one of the make factors keeping me in this sector - was that I got my weekends back. I used to miss so much fun stuff with family

and friends when I worked weekends, so the penalty rates were good compensation.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates because it is fair and the right thing to do. Weekends matter. That's why they're called "weekends" and not "some extra bits of the week".

Submitted by

Evin Donohoe

Thursday 13th of September 2012