

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 registered midwife/registered nurse, currently earning around 35 per hour.

i am a single mother with two small children, i have a mortgage and a car loan. i have no family close by and i have to put my child into day care the other child goes to school(private catholic school)

If penalty rates were abolished... i would almost be impossible to survive.. i would certainly rely more on the government for more government assistance i.e parental payments, family assistance etc.. i would not be able to send my children to private school and hence would have to send them to public school(costing the government more money)..i work shiftwork and only on weekends so that i dont have to send my smallest child to day care full time..so that i get to spend time with her while she is

little..so i dont have to pay someone else to raise my child..if i didnt receive penalty rates it would reduce my income by \$500 per fortnight...it just wouldnt be fair and i would have to work fulltime to make up the extra money..which will then take away time with my children.

My weekends are important to me because...its family time..time to spend with family and friends..its the time you watch your children play sport...i miss out on these things all the time because i work weekends..early/late/night duty..i recently missed my 12yo netball grand final due to having to work a early shift at work..due to being short staffed i could not swap or take the day off...i also miss out on family events such as engagements, birthday parties etc due to my work...

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates..so that i can remain independant..that i can support my family without having to rely on the government for extra financial assistance.

Submitted by

belinda hart

Tuesday 25th of September 2012