

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 permanent employee, working as a Orderly, currently earning around 28 per hour.

I am married with three teenage children and a mortgage. My wife works as a security officer and we both work a lot of weekends to make ends meet.

If penalty rates were abolished... we would stand to lose \$23000 a year. We would not be able to afford to pay our mortgage or at least one of us would have to work another job for about 25 hours a week to make up the loss of income. What would be the point in living having to work so much in a job you don't enjoy.

My weekends are important to me because... all sports my children are involved in are played on the weekends and most major events are planned for the weekends, people

usually marry on weekends. I have missed countless of my children's football and soccer games by working weekends but I need the money so I make the sacrifice for the extra pay.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Otherwise weekends are just another day of the week and life for many struggling Tasmanians will become so much worse. What possible benefit could justify this.

Submitted by

Simon Bodfish

Tuesday 18th of September 2012