

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 800 per week.

I have a 9 month old baby and we have a mortgage. we bought our unit 18 months ago.

My baby has had alot of medical problems since he was born, therefore I'm unable to put him in daycare. My family live overseas so they can't help us out. I work part time at the weekends to make ends meet and my partner looks after the baby. If the weekend penalty rates were abolished, I would be working for a lot less money which wouldn't cover all our bills. I hate to think where we would end up if this was introduced!!

The weekend is the only time we get to spend together as a family but I have to sacrifice this due to our financial commitments, therefore I feel it is only fair that I'm compensated financially. If I could work full time, I wouldn't have to work weekends but at the moment I don't have any choice. Australia is a very expensive place to live and we cannot survive without the extra money I make at the weekend.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I rely on these rates to basically make ends meet. I'm unable to return to full time work because my child has medical problems and I'm unable to put him in daycare. If they were taken away, My family and I could potentially lose our home.

Submitted by

Hayley Butler

Saturday 29th of September 2012