

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 support worker, currently earning around \$30,000 per year.

I have worked in the Care Sector for those with disabilities for 40 years and am approaching retirement. I would like to continue working past retirement age to supplement my pension and a higher penalty rate of pay would make this more attractive.

If penalty rates were abolished I would receive less pay as I currently work alternate weekends in my role as a support worker for residents' with disabilities...

My weekends are important to me because I can see my children and enjoy the special days of Saturday and Sunday with markets, community events and

atmosphere.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. The weekends are a time to be spent with family and friends. Penalty rates are an important part of keeping the weekend special and compensating those who do have to work and are especially important for young and casual workers who do not earn much.

Submitted by

Maree Waters

Tuesday 18th of September 2012