

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 AIN, currently earning around \$19.77 per hour.

I have a family and am a carer for my child who mentally ill. I am also a second year B Nursing student. I struggle enough as it is with the rising cost of living and paying uni expenses. I cannot believe you are kicking us in the guts trying to abolish penalty rates. Then again walk a day in our shoes and see how you would survive.

If penalty rates were abolished... I work weekends only and have done for some time my choice as I need weekdays to attend uni and complete assessments. Looks like im wasting my time finishing my degree if this is what im up against.

My weekends are important to me because... I only work weekends which means I

make enough money to support my family and attend uni during the week.I work 16 hours a week and make as much as other staff who work five days a week.It is my choice as I am studying for better job prospects for my future.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

You people in high places have no idea you get top dollar for what you do.Do us a favor you work for a flat rate of \$19.77 in aged care see how you go if penalty rates are abolished.

Submitted by

Maria Baker

Friday 28th of September 2012