

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 casual employee, working as a gardener, currently earning around \$20 per hour.

I am a Student, working part time as a Gardener to support myself through my studies

As a gardener, i do not receive penalty rates. However, in my past jobs I have received penalty rates, and I think its very important to ensure workers can spend time with their family and friends. I estimate i would have received around \$5,000 of penalty rates throughout my employment.

If penalty rates were abolished

Weekends are invaluable to all workers as they allow them time to unwind and spend

with their family and friends. Without this time, many families will be under increasing pressure, and eventually breakdown. Mothers and Fathers need to be with their kids, just as kids need to be with their mothers and fathers.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Do it or you will be sorry, as people will not take having their rights stripped away from them.

Submitted by

Owen Bennett

Saturday 15th of September 2012