

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 \$38 per hour.

I am a family man and enjoy spending time with my kids on the weekend which includes attending church and scouting activities such as camping and hiking.

If penalty rates were abolished...there would be a push to open our outpatient unit which currently operates Monday to Friday to a seven day facility.

My weekends are important to me because...I cherish the time I have with my family and friends who only work Monday to Friday. I also attend church on a weekly basis so I am afraid this will be limited to when I could attend. I am also involved in Scouting and we spend many weekends and days away camping and enjoying the outdoors.

Most of these activities only occur on weekends when all the kids are available.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates for a good balance of work and family life. And for the people who are currently required to work weekends to maintain penalty rates for some compensation for not being able to be with people who have the time off on weekends.

Submitted by

John Watt

Tuesday 25th of September 2012