

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 Registered Nurse, currently earning around \$35 per hour.

I'm 54 with a \$350K mortgage 1 child at Tafe 1 child at University and 1 child still at school, I work the nights on weekends because the penalty rates subsidise my wages

If penalty rates were abolished, forget about me and my work mates working weekends or night duty, the only reason I work these hours is the penalty rates

My weekends are important to me because...I have kids sport, that is the whole weekend

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Or you will find nurses will no longer work

in places for only an ordinary wage, might as well clean houses instead

Submitted by

Dianne Smith

Tuesday 25th of September 2012