

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 per hour.

I have a husband and two adult children. I work every second week-end and am paid penalty rates. Working week-ends disrupts family life and I think it is only right to be paid penalties. One of children struggles financially as a casual teacher in and sometimes picks up shifts in a coffee shop. He is not paid penalty rates when he works on a week-end which I think is totally wrong. I have written a boring little story but believe you me, I think any one who works penalties should be rewarded.

If penalty rates were abolished... ofcourse my apy would reduce , reducing my lifestyle.

My weekends are important to me because...

I think it is important for families to have time out together.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Australia has a shortage of new nurses already and paying ridiculous rates for agency nurses from overseas. To not pay a reasonable wage by abolishing penalties will even further deter young people for choosing nursing as a career.

Submitted by

Anne Woodward

Wednesday 3rd of October 2012