

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 38 dollars per hour.

I am an Emergency Nurse, Wife and Mother of two Sons. We also have 3 dogs and a large Family. We live in our mortgaged house.

We both work to live, pay off our mortgage and prepare our children for becoming a useful part of society which is becoming increasingly hard to achieve with the government continually taking away so many of the hard earned paid penalties from essential government funded employment, one being Nursing and Midwifery. It will be very difficult to roster the weekend and will cause many conflicts if those extra incentives or 'penalty rates' were to be abolished. I believe.

My weekends are important to me because...this is a time for reinforcing family bonds and enjoying other aspects of living. We take our boys to learn tennis and swimming on the weekend when both of us are free to supervise together...its great! We have extended family get togethers on the weekend, many of which I have missed through years of weekend work.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. With the government continually taking away so many of the hard earned paid penalties from essential government funded employment, one being Nursing and Midwifery it makes our employment seem more meaningless now. What are you insinuating about our worth?!!!

Submitted by

Michelle Selden

Tuesday 25th of September 2012