

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 39 dollars per hour.

i live with my partner and his 2 children, we rent our home
,and i work at the local hospital in the operating theatres.

If penalty rates were abolished... as i work a 7 day rotating roster which includes weekends, evening shifts till 10pm and on call over night, and often get called back to work during these oncall duties as we dont have night staff, i would lose about \$500 per fortnight if penalty rates were scrapped.we would probably have to move away from the area as we wouldnt be able to afford to stay in .

My weekends are important to me because...it is when the rest of my family are at

home, and when most of my social friends go bushwalking etc, when i work it obviously means i cant take part in these activities

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. it is the only thing that makes working unsocial hours worth the while of not being able to do the things that i enjoy with people i like. it enables me to live in sydney and this would not be possible if my wages were cut.

Submitted by

rachel upton

Saturday 29th of September 2012