

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 Hospital support worker, currently earning around \$23 per hour.

I am a father of 2, married and about as average and normal as families come.

If penalty rates were abolished... Lots of average people could not make ends meet, lives and budgets are built around having them. Most family people don't want to work weekends and nights, their employer forces them to.

My weekends are important to me because... They are the corner stone of family life, our communities are struggling to survive and function because people can't see their children or family because life has become a 24/7 rat race that leaves no time for life and living. People can't play sport half the team always has to work, (hence the obesity

epidemic) school is monday to friday people dont see their children,(more family breakdown, absent parents) mental health issues and family breakdown is the norm not the exception, all becaust business cant stop making monye for 1 minuie so people can be people and live. We want our lives and weekends back, and if we dont preserve them our society will crumble.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Abbolition of penalty rates is what business wants, not what the people want, we were all happier and healthier when we had community and family time together, we are not robots we are humans, 7 day a week 24 houre a day trading is helping destroy the fabric of our community and by removing penalty rates we come one step closer to business dictating when we eat sleep and live, in the end the greedy an rich benifit and society pays.

Submitted by

Tony Huxley

Friday 21st of September 2012