Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 VET teacher in hospitality, currently earning around 40 per hour.

I am a TAFE teacher who is responsible for teaching the current and next generation of hospitality employees

If penalty rates were abolished the current pool of available employees is continuing to fall with young people and old not appearing to want to work in the service industry. We all want the convenience of almost around the clock service whether it for restaurant an pub attendance or payin bills online etc however these conveiences do come at a cost that we shoul all pay for.

My weekends are important to me because they are an opportunity to mix and interact

with the majority of society as well as to spend time for rest and relaxation with family and general community groups.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. For the sake of the low paid retail and hospitality industry worker who have to make a work wage not drift down the road of overseas sectors who rely on tips for their wages. It only perpetuates a black economy outcome where people d not work for a sustainable wage. WHile employers would certainly reap the benefits of lower wages I cannot presume that it wuld increase employment, rather just increase the potential profit margins of employers, which while a good thing is not supporting an egalitarian society.

Submitted by
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