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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 ain, currently earning around 21dollars per hour.

I am 58 and would like to keep working a while longer. I enjoy my job working with interlectually handicapped people with challenging behaviour.I work all shifts. I don't have a mortgage but the cuurent economic climate means I need to work a bit longer.

If penalty rates were abolished..I would give up work. There would be no incentive to risk my life day in and day out in my work. Unless you have worked shift work you would not understand the sacrifice that is made by shift workers.

My weekends are important to me because..as you can see my basic wage is pathetic. penalty rates allow me to earn a better wage. Where would I start to tell you what I

have missed out on working weekends But penalty rates make it worth while.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I see politicians getting enormous wages and yet they want to take penalty rates from hard working Australians. Things are tough enough trying to get ahead but this is just another kick in the teeth. I think it's about time politicians listened to the people and tried to help instead of take, take, take. I have lost all faith in anyone in politics.

Submitted by
Carol Donaldson
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