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 employee, working as a Waitress, currently earning around $24 per hour.

I am a student & do most hours on the weekends. This is my bread & butter to get me by through the week.

If penalty rates were abolished I would need to work more hours to make ends meet, sacrificing study time for work time.

My weekends are important to me because I get to catch up with friends, get some study & housework done & make my money for the week

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Weekends are the time in the week when hospitality businesses are busier & make the most money, so I feel its relative because

staff work harder aswell. There's no reason why businesses would suffer if we kept penalty rates. If the business is running well, it should not effect them too much. On the other hand, it would greatly effect many working class peoples' spending power. It's keeping money in the hands of the many instead of the few. I'm sure this would effect the businesses themselves at the end of the day when the working class people can't afford to eat out or buy new items from local shops, effectively shooting businesses in their own foot. If working class people are finding it hard, recreation & retail are going to be the first sectors that suffer.

Submitted by
Sarah Brown
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