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 casual employee, working as a stevedore, currently earning around 36 per hour.

I cannot afford a family or a mortgage. The people working weekends and odd hours really do make sacrifices and the penalty rates are a fair compensation. We should be aiming at bringing society together with more equality not creating a servant class of underpaid hospitality workers and night shift labourers.

If penalty rates were abolished it would be great for the fat wealthy people who want to be waited on and eat a cheap lunch out any time of the week. But it causes disharmony in the society, rising crime etc etc

My weekends are important to me because they are when there is a catch up time with friends and a chance for many (working full time) to do the things which are most important in our lives.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Submitted by

Genesis Gutierrez

Wednesday 17th of October 2012