Jodie Stubbs

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PO Box 6100

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 manager, currently earning around 53.00 per hour.

I have a family with two children, my eldest son is working in his gap year to save money to go to university next year and my youngest son is in high school. I have a mortgage and work very hard to support my family.

If penalty rates were abolished it would have a financial impact on the people that I work with. I think that working week-ends which you cannot spend with your family should be paid at a different rate. Working night work is not something that is enjoyable and that is why it has had a payment attached to it.

I know that some families rely on over time and penalty payments to make ends meet.

My weekends are important to me because I spend time with my children who are involved in sporting activities and I also play sport myself. People working week-ends miss out on attending their childrens sporting events and this is something that as a parent brings me a lot of joy. Watching them work together as a team and really try to be the best that they can be and sometimes win if everything is working.

Really parents working on week-ends miss out on being there and seeing the joy of their children.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Its unaustralian for people not to be finacially rewarded for giving up things that would bring them joy, such as attending their childrens sporting events.

Working parents miss out on so much, i don't think that paying them a penalty for working is unjustified, I think that its worth their effort for working on a week-end.

Submitted by
Jodie Stubbs
Monday 24th of September 2012