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 Boilermaker, currently earning around $42 per hour.

I have a huge mortgage, since I live in even the run down houses are extremely expensive.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would have to work several more hours to pay the bills, impacting on my personal time.. Leaving me with no time do get things done. Even small chores like washing my clothes, buying food, cooking dinner and keeping fit.

My weekends are important to me because... I get time to relax and unwind when I need to. I get to train with my mates and be part of my community. If there are any

family things on I get to attend.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. Since if im giving up that family\activity time. Then it has to be rewarded. Why ask people to work longer hrs to get by in life when usually the normal 38hr week doesn't at all cover the cost of living. If all I did was work then I would never be part of my community or be able to spend time with loved ones. Employers would have us working everyday of the week with ridiculous hrs, because they wouldn't have to think for a second how much its going to cost them. This would impact on every employees job and well-being.
Obviously Senator Xenophon hasn't ever had to worry about these issues in his life. Because doing something like this will destroy so many peoples lives, making them work extra hrs leaving them less time to actually live.

Submitted by
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