Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 Electrician, currently earning around 56 per hour.

I have a young family, mortgages x 2 due to the gfc, and had to change jobs to fly in fly out to get on top of all my bills

If penalty rates were abolished...
I would not be able to. Find a normal city job after I get ahead of my bills, most low income earners do overtime to be able to pay their bills including my parents, so are you driving more people to end up on the doll? For a low income earner the penalty rates make the week worth it due to working that 10 % to 20% extra on a penalty rate I know I did to complete my apprentership, it's how you pay the rent and get food on the table by doing a 52 hour week, at present I do 174 hours in 2 weeks not on penalty

rates, this is a normal persons month and more then I work another week with in the month, this is only a short term work choice as it is not sustainable long term, if employees are on a high enough income then it may be thought of oh but that's the politicians who are hard done by in their own minds, and when they get stressed the get big pay outs, but as an ex serviceman returning for the Persian gulf serving and returning with PTSD well if I didn't work I would need a housing commission house, steal to feed my self yet alone my family and on and on. Bottom line the politicians are so out of touch with Australians the should live in another country, the Australia I served does not exist, you politicians in a robin hood state mind steal from the rich and give to the politicians is not right.

My weekends are important to me because...
I have family and if work takes away that then why work,

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.
You are out of touch with australians

Submitted by
Roger Mcarthur
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