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 casual employee, working as a tutor, currently earning around $40 per hour.

I have a mortgage.
More importantly I believe in weekends.
What do you have in mind calling Saturday and Sunday if they are not different from the other days in the week?
If people want service on a Saturday or Sunday they should pay more for it and the employees in that shop, cafe, pub etc etc get paid more.

Will you have schools going onto Saturday and Sunday too?
If not then what will you be doing with the children?

Parents and grandparents would like to spend some time with their families and if they

cannot because of work requirements then they should be compensated for that inconvenience.

I paid for my education, undergraduate and post graduate by working, and a lot of that work was done at weekends. If you abolish penalty rates then students will have to work longer to make the same amount of money. That is just one aspect of it.

My weekends are important to me because at present it is the time children are not at school and hence is the time when family is able to have time together.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Submitted by
Rob Pattison
Thursday 13th of September 2012