



**Morayfield**

20 September 2012

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees  
on Education, Employment  
and Workplace Relations  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary

Fair Work Amendment (Small Business Penalty Rate Exemption) Bill 2012

I have a small business employing less than twenty full time equivalent employees.

I wish to provide my total support for the passage of this Bill through Parliament as my payroll costs have blown out since the introduction of the Restaurant Industry Award regulating wages and penalty rates. Accordingly I have cut back staff hours and reduced our opening hours.

If penalty rates were abolished not only would my business be more viable on weekends I would employ more employees. Particularly those 20 years and above as at present we can only afford juniors.

Our guests expect us to be open seven days and nights yet this can only be achieved if it is commercially viable to trade through de-regulation of the mandatory penalty rates applied under the Modern Industrial Award system.

Yours faithfully

Stacey Houghton  
Director