Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 picker, currently earning around $28 per hour.

I am a family man with 3 kids, we rent, I have just had my hands fixed for carpal tunnel.

I work shift work, this demands more on the body and harder on the mental side, as after starting at 6pm and doing a 8 to 10 hour shift finishing around 2am half hour drive home and half hour for shower and food bed around 3am kids wake up around 6.30am 3 and half hour sleep, kids gone to school 9am back to bed try and rest as long as possible and hope I don't have to go out and try to help around the house. Thats six day a week and I lose penaly rates it would cost me at least 17% over the year.

I also fundraise for the Jr cricket team and assist with couching this is wednesday and thursday and friday night and saturday morning, My daughter has a in netball team that play monday nights, As you can see I really don't have time for mates as it is or neither can I afford to have a drink at the local, Work has made me miss grand final for a team I coached, and run late for team events, most parents know I get there as quick as I can, with the cost of sport and petrol without penalty rates I could not afford to be able to afford to do this for the children, as I would have to do more hours to afford to support my childens sports.

I would not work/take weekends or shift work if penaty rates disappear, I cannot aford a mortage now, to remove peanlty rates will ensure I will never be able to buy a house, as it is I don't even get paid holidays. Please we the average are at our breaking point now and most companies are delivering comfortabl;e profits and I feel whipped.

Submitted by
Carlos van nek
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