

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 permanent employee, working as a Receptionist/Sales Consultant, currently earning around \$16.00 per hour.

I have a family and a mortgage, it can be very hard to make ends meet. We are on a tight budget that we must stick to in order to be able to pay our bills.

If penalty rates were abolished there would be hundreds of thousands of average Australians that would be worse off. It is becoming harder and harder to make ends meet in this country, why would you do something to make day to day living even more difficult? I should but do not currently receive penalty rates. I have worked in retail for years and years, why is it fair for retail/hospitality/other workers to lose their hard earned money? People who work on weekends sacrifice so much to provide goods and services to those who do not work on weekends, they DESERVE these penalty

rates.

My Sundays are important to me because I need time away from work to spend with my family. I also need to this extra time to maintain the cleanliness of the house and do all the things I don't get time to do of a nighttime when I get home from a long stressful day at work (we get paid for a 76 hour fortnight when in reality we are working a 94 hour fortnight).

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates so that the average Australian can continue to keep the same standard of living. People who work on weekends sacrifice so much to provide goods and services to those who do not work on weekends, they DESERVE these penalty rates.

Submitted by

Kate Morris

Wednesday 19th of September 2012