

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Submission to the Inquiry into the Fair Work Amendment (Small Business-Penalty Rates Exemption) Bill 2012

Penalty rates should be maintained as, whilst we may live in a 24/7 world, the vast majority of people value the week-end as a time for the whole family and sports, cultural, religious and many other activities look to the week-end for maximum support and involvement. Some people, hoping to work fewer days but earn better money, are willing to work the days others would prefer to have off. It is probably hard on some small businesses and hospitals to pay penalty rates, but some compensation for working what are still considered unsociable hours creates a healthy balance overall. The week-end is not yet dead by any means!

I no longer work shift work as a registered nurse, but valued the penalties when I did.

Submitted by

Jenny Holmes

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