

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 labourer, currently earning around \$20 per hour.

I have a young daughter and a wife, face a rent cost each fortnight that is only ever likely to go up, and have aspirations to one day own a roof over my head.

I also have a religion inspired moral compass, and require time on the weekends to volunteer with community building activities or when personal attendance is not possible, to contribute financially to such activities.

If penalty rates were abolished my aspirations to one day own the roof over my head will become distant, there will be less incentive on my employer to respect what precious little family time remains in a busy world, and the opportunity to contribute to community building activities will be cut short.

My weekends are important to me because it gives me time to do things as important as work, but which can't be done during work hours.

For example we all need time for shopping, to service the car and do odd jobs, to engage in fitness activities down at the park, to network with the neighbours, to renew inner peace and strength with my local faith community to give me the patience to deal with monday to friday turmoil.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates in the strongest possible terms as since the industrial revolution more than sufficient excess has been produced to ensure the capital for market growth, and there is therefore no justification whatsoever for trampling on the little people of the world with this community destroying rate slashing exercise.

Submitted by

Daniel De Mol

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