Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 Support Officer, currently earning around 60K per year.

I am not currently working in the industry but I did many years ago and those that provide customer service on weekends deserve to get paid penalty rates - why would you do it otherwise.  Giving up your nights and weekends should be worth something!

If penalty rates were abolished... less income means working more hours to get the same amount of money which means less time with your family and friends.

My weekends are important to me because... it\'s the time to see people - our lives are so busy anyway - weekends matter for catching up on things around the house, if you

are not getting penalty rates for weekends then people will leave the industries and those industries will suffer, which in turn means everyone will end up missing out on things because they are no longer viable.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.  We lose to much these days because of progress, soon we won\'t be able to enjoy going out on weekends as there will be no one to staff restaurants and cafes as people won\'t work for the pathetic wages  - any money prices won\'t go down though!!!

Submitted by
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