

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 employee, working as a Apprentice Mechanic, currently earning around \$15.00 per hour.

I live with my wife and my adopted 10 year old son, We currently rent but we are both working ourselves into a better financial position so we can build our own home, I am a mature age apprentice doing my first year so I have a few years of struggling financially to go before things hopefully get a little easier.

The weeks I don't work on saturday there is no cash left after bills and rent etc. giving up my saturday I at least get compensated with I little extra cash to go into the next week with, losing penalty rates would destroy any ability to save, make any recreational activities on sunday unaffordable, It would just really hurt the hip pocket and make getting up to go to work on a monday, with 6 hard days ahead of me, more

difficult.

The weekend is important to relax and recharge the batteries, visit friends or relatives you don't get to see during the working week, spend time with kids and partners, generally just get to slow down and recover from the fast paced and extremely tiring working week.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. It is just fair. We as workers spend our lives helping the companies we work for to earn more and more money every year. We are what makes the business succeed, it takes hard work both mentally and physically, We are there monday to friday for the better part of the day, day after day, year after year, If we are to give up our weekends we should always be very well compensated for it. Taking away penalty rates would be an un-australian thing to do, I would go as far to say its un-human!! We are trying to become better people and race's here, It would be yet another step in the wrong direction.

Submitted by

Dale Menadue

Monday 17th of September 2012