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

I am a permanent employee, working as a nurse, currently earning around 27 per hour.

I am a nurse, working in the private sector. currently the conditions are acceptable, i work long hours and most shifts have to work overtime. Exhausted by the end of the week usually. I am often required to work on-call shifts, as part of my contract and given my chosen area of expertise,there is no choice.

If penalty rates were abolished it would impact greatly on my life and that of my family, we already work rediculous hours, loosing precious time together, working on-call shifts on the weekend are made easier because of the extra financial reward.

My weekends are important to me because its my time to spend with my family, relax, and be spontaneous with them. life is soo structured and regimented, that downtime on

the weekend is like a trip to the doctor when feeling poorly.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. The impact on our community, will only increase negatives in our society. Sick leave, Stress leave, Financial worries will skyrocket and that in its-self opens up a whole can of worms. Its easy to see how much can be saved financially by this rediculous proposal. I urge that it be thrown out given its most certain negative impact on our wonderful country.

Submitted by
eileen mcallister
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