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 permanent employee, working as a nurse, currently earning around 28 per hour.

I am single and living on my own paying rent and trying to save.

If penalty rates were abolished my pay would decrease dramatically because I regularly work on weekends, evenings and nights. I estimate that I would be about \$500 less off without penalty rates which will also effect the charities that I donate to. The extra pay that I get with penalty rates helps ease the daily living costs and stress that I experience.

My weekends are important to me because I enjoy hanging with my friends and regularly attend church. I constantly miss out on church, family events and friends birthdays because I work weekends. Most of my friends work monday to friday so it is

hard for me to have weekends free when I have to share the workload at my workplace.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates because I feel that I and many other nurses would be seriously considering a new career. Its not a good feeling when your working on a weekend and your family is enjoying quality time together at a wedding or function.

Submitted by

Aaron Ryan

Saturday 6th of October 2012