

Victorian Golden Roast

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on  
Education, Employment and  
Workplace Relations  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary

**Fair Work Amendment (Small Business Penalty Rate Exemption) Bill 2012**

I run a small business employing less than twenty full time equivalent employees.

I wish to provide my absolute support for the passage of this Bill through Parliament as my labour costs have blown out since the introduction of the Restaurant Industry Award regulating wages and penalty rates.

If penalty rates were abolished not only would my business be more viable on weekends I would consider employing more casual employees.

Consumers expect restaurants and cafes to trade 24/7 yet this can only be achieved if it is commercially viable to trade through de-regulation of the mandatory penalty rates applied under the Modern Industrial Award system.

Further, we employ a number of casual University students, who are only available to work on weekends (given their classes). Given they are only available to work on weekends, it makes no sense at all to have to pay penalty rates to these (or any other) staff

Yours faithfully

Craig Dewis  
Business Owner