Kate Carbines

Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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

I am a employee, working as a Checkout operator , currently earning around 20 per hour.

I am 20 years old and a full time student in Law, I rent a unit for $240pw with my partner because there is no place for us to stay with our parents, we are trying very hard to save for a mortgage but can not afford to save more than $50 per week.

If penalty rates were abolished... i would not be able to afford to pay my rent. My partner and i only have one car and must share, he works day shift monday to friday and so i work mostly night and weekend shifts. Combined my partner and i could loose up to $400 a week.

My weekends are important to me because... it is the only time i can spend with my

family and partner. I almost always miss out on family ' get togethers' because i am working

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. This kind of change would be devastating, not only for my partner and myself but also many of our family members who work overtime for extra money. A change like this would mean that we would no longer be able to afford to pay our essential bills like; rent, electricity, food and petrol.

Submitted by
Kate Carbines
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