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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 , currently earning around $23.83 per hour.

My family have grown up,I lost my partner to Cancer & have not remarried,so my wage is the only wage coming into my household. I also have a Mortgage.

If penalty rates were abolished...it would mean that I would have to work more hours than I do now. I would lose close to $300.00. I work Night Shift & recieve penality rates. A lot of my fellow workers are ONE income families & have children to Educate.

My weekends are important to me because...i like to catch up with friends, go away, go to concerts etc. I have missed out on many special events as I have had to work, some of that has been my choice. I try to change shifts where possible.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. If P/Rates are abolished a lot of our staff won't work w'ends. We have enough trouble finding staff to cover shifts now as our hourly rate is so low compared to other professions, they will seek employment elsewhere, which is happening now & has been for years. Unless the G'ment wakes up, they won't get people to work in Aged Care,because of the POOR WAGES, who will suffer THE ELDERLY.

Submitted by
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