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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

My husband and I have always worked very hard to provide for our family. Despite this, making ends meet is a daily struggle. At the moment neither of us receive penalty rates but in the past both of us have and it has meant a great deal to us, for our financial survival and more importantly for our family and community participation.

Very little is honoured or held special but family and community should be valued by keeping penalty rates in place. The foundation of business and economy rests on those workers that face the daily grind so it makes sense to pay them justly and to allow them to have a family and community life that can support them to give their best in the work place.

Taking away this small protection in any work place is a slippery slope opening the way to making the lives of workers on the frontline even smaller.

Submitted by

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