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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 Enrolled Nurse, currently earning around 25.00 per hour.

I am 54 years old and have a mortgage I have a grown family and grandchildren that don't live close by.I would like to further my studies.

If penalty rates were abolished...I would lose my house,unable to do any studies and holidays I take to visit my children and grandchildren would not happen.I work weekends,night shift and evenings to make up my fortnightly income to be able to live and take time out for my children and self if these penalty rates are lost and lose everything I have worked for in this field for the past 37 years.

yes I have missed out on a lot with my children growing up and it is hard when you are

not able to get to special events.But without penalty rates it would not be worth working shift work or weekends.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. as I feel there will be a bigger shortage of nurses than we have now if penalty rates are taken away we deal with so much on the front line now and get very little back at least let us keep our penalty rates our pay rate is not that great for what we do when you compare it to other employments.

Submitted by
Deborah Reid
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