Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Canberra ACT 2600

Australia

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

I am a permanent employee, working as a factory worker in dairy factory, currently earning around $30.00 per hour.

Retiring in aprox 10 years and I have very little super thanks to trying my own small business before seeing reality and starting my current employed job (been here 10 years now) kids have grown and left home still paying off home and cars ect.

If penalty rates were abolished my pay and super contributions would be reduced and I like a lot of the other workers at the dairy factory I work at all say why the hell would we be here on weekends and night shift if it wasn't for the money, 50 years old and only $50,000 in super with now the prospect of even less returns when I retire, thanks for taking away what little i was going to have.

My weekends are very important to me, at present I can't get involved in sport because I'm working, having to miss family events, bbqs and Christmas and boxing day, Easter Friday, Saturday and Sunday. and night shift is worse as we sleep during the day and work at night, give up our penalty's, Screw it I loose too much of my life now without loosing what makes it worth while. GST and CARBON TAX on everything, electricity, fuel shire rates ALL GOING UP, and you want us to take less, DON'T LIKE IT AT ALL!

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates, I have seen the documentaries about what they did in America, dropped the base pay rate to $5:00 an hour, a single police woman had to take a second job as a security guard to help pay the bills, rent and food, her kids were forced to fend for themselves most nights, Don't follow the Americans and force the breakup of families by forcing us to work longer just to survive.

Submitted by
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