Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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Parliament House

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 security technician, currently earning around 25.00 per hour.

My family is just me and two rescue dogs.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would NEVER have been able to afford to buy my own house. By working all these years of shift I was able to save a deposit and finally buy my own place. It's a tiny little house, but I love it.

My weekends are important to me because...that is the only time i get to catch up with my family and friends. By working shift for all these years I have missed out on so many important times with my family friends, and missed out on being able to play regular sport, or volunteer for the RSPCA on a regular basis.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. I have missed so many things becuase I have worked on weekends, including spending time with a beloved family member before they passed. It has been a big sacrifice to work these hours, but I did it so I could own my own little house and not have to spend the rest of my life with the insecurity and stress of renting. I am proud that I can support myself and pay all my own bills. Although it has cost me a lot to miss all the special family times, (and I am actually crying now to think of some times I did miss) - it was important to me to have my own place to live and be able to fully support myself.

Submitted by
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