

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 believe this would be a major setback to the Australia we all know with a "fair go" for all. This bill might increase the profits of businesses and better line bosses pockets with more money, but this would be detrimental to the work family / balance that forms Australian culture.

I have worked for years on the weekends in order to make extra money to help cover the bills. This often meant that I missed out on sports with the kids and family picnics and so forth. As my children got older and started school this meant that I saw even less of them. But I did this in order to keep the bills paid and food on the table.

Under your proposal not only would I be missing out on these important times with my family, but I would have nothing to show for it. The greater impact is that I would more than likely have to find a second job to make up for the drop in pay. This would wipe

out the already limited time I see my kids after school. Leaving us as virtual strangers, all so the boss can save a few extra dollars.

Most weekends my boss will show up for a few hours if at all. Why? Because he spends time with his family.

While I work the weekends out of choice, removal of penalty rates would encourage employers to force more people onto the weekends. With no impact to their bottom line, but at a great social and financial cost to the worker.

Where is the fair go for all, weekends are for families and if we have to give this up we should be compensated fairly.

Submitted by

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