Gordon Blair

Committee Secretary

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

I am a permanent employee, working as a Registered Nurse, currently earning around $38. per hour.

I have two children under 10 yo still at home. My wife works in a part time position, and our mortgage payments and cost of living mean we need as much income as possible. We have two older boys, who are in apprenticeships, and from time to time, they ask for some financial assistance.

If I were to lose my WEEKEND PENALTY rates, I would be down some $1,000. a fortnight in income. It would mean, going out and working a second job - which would destroy any 'family time' I have at present.
My family rely upon my penalty rates just to keep a reasonable standard of living.

If I wasn't working a weekend shift, I would be out with the kids more, or doing some volunteering with SES or RFS.
I need to work the weekends - but I miss my time off.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.

Workers should have the right to decide HOW they earn an income.

I give up my weekends to provide the 'extra' for my family, and to keep up with our mortgage. Please don't take that away from my family ...

sincerely,
Gordon Blair

Submitted by
Gordon Blair
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