Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PO Box 6100

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 casual employee, working as a steverdore, currently earning around 46 per hour.

I have not been working for the last 18 months as i had a stroke and i hope to get back to work to pay off my house before the bank want it back.

If penalty rates were abolished...our employer worked out a fair rate because we work 12 hour shifts which can be on weekends or weekdays but if penalty rates were abolished they can scrap this hourly rate. That means that most people wouldnt bother to work there as the hourly rate wouldnt be worth it which would stop yet another valuable form of employment in this area which is badly in need of any work at the moment.

My weekends are important to me because...i get to catch up on property maintenance and see freinds

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.because the cost of living is going up and we cannot survive on the crap wages that are on offer without penalty rates.we have all borrowed money to buy houses etc and now the government want to change the rules so we can no longer earn enough money to pay our debts. I thought that the labour government were supposed to help the worker! This is like returning to John Howards bad old days just so you can get a few more votes

Submitted by
keith hailey
Saturday 15th of September 2012