

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 permanent employee, working as a Registered Nurse, currently earning around 1233 per week.

I am married with 2 children, and have a mortgage just like everyone else. I actually travel 50 minutes to work every day.

If penalty rates were abolished... I would be losing around \$300 - \$400 a week. I work on weekends, evening and night shifts. By doing these shifts it enables my family to keep our head above water

My weekends are important to me because...yes just like every other mother I too want to spend time with my children and husband. On many occasions I have not been able to attend family functions or have had to go to these late.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. We have enough trouble trying to fill in shifts as there is not enough staff to cover them at present, if we loose our penalties for these shifts there will be no way that nurses will put them selves out to do weekend shifts. All nurses will only want to do monday to friday 0900 to 1700 so that they can spend time with their families.

Submitted by

Linda Harvey

Saturday 29th of September 2012