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 am a casual employee, working as a Madigan Real Estate, currently earning around commission per hour.

I am a mother of two now adult children. When my children were smalll they looked forward to spending the weekend together. If I had to work the extra money was used to pay for holidays/ treats like special outings like the zoo/ events. Scrapping weekend rates would finish the rewards for working weekends and it would be difficult to get workers to give up their weekends without any benefits to them or their failies. Australians love their weekends and that should be respected and rewarded.

If penalty rates were abolished... I have worked weekends and I have spoke of this in previous question. I would be very upset if my children could not spend their weekends with their families. We MUST support families to Care for their children.

My weekends are important to me because...It is the days when most of the family is available. When would you have those VERY IMPORTANT FAMILY EVENTS if weekends were unimportant.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates.
We must allow our working adults to be parents too. They need time to fish with their children, time to talk to their children, share life, love and wisdom. Weekends without freedom is unacceptable.

Submitted by
Mrs Mary Madigan
Thursday 13th of September 2012