

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 employee, working as a registered nurse, currently earning around \$37.00 per hour.

I have for most of my career worked shift work which included a lot of weekend work and night shifts. I have chosen to to work Monday to Friday day shift now so that I can enjoy some family time and some predictability in my working week. The people who choose to work the unfriendly shifts should be compensated for it as you do miss out on a lot of your social and family time.

If penalty rates were abolished,the poorest paid in our society would again be disadvantaged and businesses would reap the benefits. If these people refused to work the weekends without penalty rates I'm sure they would be given an ultimatum to work them or lose their job. Don't businesses realize that if people aren't earning

enough money they will have no money to spend.

My weekends are important to me because now after years of working 4-6 weekends in a row I have time to participate in sport with my husband and to watch my grandchildren compete in their sports.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. We should value the people who are willing to work the unusual hours to provide services and care for the rest of the community to enjoy.

Submitted by

Christine Ibbett

Saturday 29th of September 2012