Committee Secretary

Senate Standing Committees on Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

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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 Recruitment Officer, currently earning around 35.00 per hour.

Married and have 5 children, one still at school, a mortgage and other debt

If penalty rates were abolished... Itâ€™s not just about losing money although that has a massive impact. You put yourself out and see your family less to make money to survive. Taking away penalty rates means taking on a second or 3rd job. Will the government take responsibility in OH&S and workplace accidents because people have run themselves in to the ground?

My weekends are important to me because...I take my children to sport and swimming lessons. Giving up other chances to spend time with family is not fair if taken away and

for normal pay.

I urge the committee to keep penalty rates. A lot of people do not have the chance to either get in a higher paying job or negotiated higher base pay. Therefore penalty rates allow that income to be more reasonable and worthwhile. Job satisfaction and in some industries customer service will become extinct for the sake of saving a dollar. Just look at our phone companies that have gone offshore for the cheaper service, (you cannot understand them and they cannot understand me)

Submitted by
Greg Fleming
Thursday 20th of September 2012