

A photograph of three people standing outdoors. On the left is a man with short brown hair and a beard, wearing a white t-shirt and a black apron, with his arms crossed. In the center is a woman with brown hair, wearing dark blue scrubs and a name tag. On the right is a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a white collared shirt under a dark cardigan. They are all looking towards the camera with serious expressions. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a string of lights.

Losing penalty rates is a pay cut
we can't afford and don't deserve
protectpenaltyrates.com.au

**Protect
penalty rates.**

save our weekend

Protect Penalty Rates.

Our penalty rates are under attack

The Federal Government has just received its Productivity Commission report recommending cuts to weekend penalty rates for people working in retail and hospitality. That's even despite the fact that the report showed the retail industry has 25 years of uninterrupted productivity growth.

Business and employer lobby groups are also pushing harder than ever for penalty rates to be slashed.

The attack on low paid workers' penalty rates is coming from all angles, including from some Government MPs.

We can't afford to lose them

Workers rely on penalty rates to compensate them for missing time with family and friends and to ensure they can pay their bills. Often, penalty rates are the only thing helping make ends meet.

A cut to penalty rates without compensation is a cut to take-home pay that workers – particularly our lowest paid workers – can't afford and don't deserve.

Workers shouldn't be forced to give up weekends and their penalty rates without adequate compensation.

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Our weekends matter

Unlike the Federal Government, we know that people don't always have a choice to work weekends.

Weekends are a night out with friends, catching a match and spending time with family. But for the people who serve us in restaurants and shops, care for our elderly and sick, keep our buildings safe and clean, or drive our ambulances, weekends are another work day.

Penalty rates are an acknowledgement that working unsociable hours comes at a cost.

“All of these matters [cutting penalty rates] are under consideration...”

Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister

To hit the local economies

Recent research shows that regional Australia would take an economic hit of up to \$1.55 billion every year if penalty rates are scrapped.

The McKell Institute research shows even a partial abolition of penalty rates in the retail and hospitality sectors would see workers in rural Australia losing between \$370.7 million per annum and \$691.5 million per annum; and a loss in disposable income of between \$174.6 million per annum and \$343.5 million per annum to local communities in rural Australia.

Protect Penalty Rates.

What can you do about it?

People across the country are joining together to stop the attack on our penalty rates. The take home pay of our retail and hospitality workers is the focus of the attacks now, but we know that other workers will be in their sights next.

We all need to come together to Save Our Weekend.

But we can't do it by ourselves. So join the campaign, and together let's protect penalty rates and Save Our Weekends.

For more information and to join the campaign visit:

protectpenaltyrates.com.au

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Gerard Dwyer, National Secretary, Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees' Association,
Level 6, 53 Queen Street Melbourne 300