The Hotel Richards is located in regional Queensland. We are the last remaining hotel in town (out of five).

In an already difficult economic time for regional hotels and towns making Christmas Eve a part day public holiday will negatively impact the Hotel and therefor the town. As the only social meeting place in the district, we will be forced to close early.

$53.85 per hour, per staff member.

Where traditionally Christmas is a time to return home to visit family, Christmas Eve is when you gather at the local hotel to catch up with old friends. If this part-day public holiday is approved, there wont be a meeting place in Mitchell as we simply cannot afford to pay staff for another public holiday. Please keep in mind that we aren’t like the hotels in the South East Corner that are brimming with patrons 7 days a week. Some evenings we wont see a customer after 7pm.

Weekends can vary, some busy but mostly we are quiet, yet we pay the same wages, same penalty rates, same wholesale costs, pay the same taxes BUT we pay higher rates, higher insurance and extremely higher freight costs.

Has any stopped to consider why there is a steady decline in outback/regional hotels? We are already struggling to afford the cost of doing business.

Yours sincerely

Allison Bayliss
Licensee