

To: Publichol <publichol@oir.qld.gov.au>

Subject: Public Holiday Christmas eve

To whom it may concern.

Firstly i am one of the thousands of retail workers whom has lost over \$5,000/year from my already LOW wages,due to Sunday penalty rate cuts. Now im seeing that it is being lobbied that Queenslanders want public holiday pay after 6pm on Christmas eve. I'd much prefer to have my Sunday penalty FULL rates reinstalled, as that would be far fairer for myself and the thousands of others that have taken such a HUGE pay cut, whilst everyone else are getting pay increases.. YOURSELF included! But Since im also one of the people that have to work till 12am EVERY NIGHT including Christmas Eve.. Then Yeah... i'll put my hand up for being paid public holiday rates.. Certainly wont cover the \$5,000+ iv already lost off the cuts to my Sunday Penalty rates.. but better than nothing for working the hours every one else gets to share with their families. I do however find it quite funny that one of the arguments for getting the public holiday rates on Christmas eve, is to do with Religious beliefs.. for NO ONE seems to care that Catholics and Christians also have church on SUNDAYS... and it was considered a HOLLY day.. which is one of the reasons penalty rates were installed on Sunday's in the first place.. Seems quite ironic it being used when it benefits more than just hospitality, and retail workers. SOME THING HAS TO GIVE!!! We give up so much of our time we could be spending with family during the year EVERY SUNDAY.. whilst white collar workers enjoy their weekends and high salaries or hourly rates.. and TAX CUTS... And even when a public holiday like Australia day lands on our Sunday shifts, you move the public holiday rates to Mondays again to benefit yourselves and other white collar workers whom only work Monday to Friday.. Whilst we work for nothing extra. So yeah.. being paid public holiday rates for Christmas eve would be good.. But Better still.. GIVE US BACK OUR SUNDAY PENALTY RATES>.. so one day we also can own our own home.. instead of renting... GIVE BACK.. instead of taking and taking off the low income earners whom cant afford to spend time with family, or have a life, because we are working ridiculous hours and days/week... just to make ends meet... You have no idea the struggles we face, but wonder why suicide and depression rates are drastically increasing!
Have a heart! be AUSTRALIAN and GIVE US retail workers A FAIR GO TOO!!!!