

*[Received by email 20/8/11]*

I'm concerned about the proposal to cut retail employee's benefits and entitlements. I am a retail employee and I have been for 12 years. The longevity of my employment is due the benefits and pay I receive. These include 4 weeks annual leave, Sunday penalty rates and penalty rates between midnight and 5am. Had it not been for these entitlements, I would have left the job many years ago.

I believe happy workers are workers that turn up and work in a job where that's worth while and pays well. The morale of the staff is higher and staff are more likely to perform better and are more happy and approachable. The most rewarding part of the job is the satisfaction of seeing a happy smiling faces on my fellow work colleagues and if they're not getting paid right our workplace won't feel like a second home anymore. Fellowship and camaraderie is the key to a happy productive workplace and if you don't have that then you don't have staff happy and willing to pass that on to the customer.

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