



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**  
**FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMY AND GENDER AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY  
Ms Leanne Castley MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),  
Mr Johnathan Davis MLA

## **Submission Cover sheet**

**Inquiry into the future of the working week**

Submission number: 00

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-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, 18 August 2021 8:47 AM  
To: LA Committee - EGEE <[LACommitteeEGEE@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:LACommitteeEGEE@parliament.act.gov.au)>  
Subject: Response to the 4 day work week.

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I would be in complete favour of a 4 day work week. It would give us some of our time back, and in so doing we would likely see an improvement in:

- \*mental health - providing people who are time poor more opportunities to indulge in self-care behaviour
- \*the economy - as those who have time are more likely to follow their passions, invest in themselves both academically and artistically. This will generate new ideas which will positively impact on all of Australia. It is recognised that intangible assets (IP, Art, patents etc) and not tangible assets will be the new predominant capital. Shortening our hours will give people more time to create for themselves.
- \*the economy again- shorter hours means more time for leisure activity, such as dinners, community sports, etc, which will put more money back into the community.
- \*it will make the ACT, and the ACT government a more desirable place to work. You would be a much more comparative employer, attracting talent and people who are interested in innovative policies from other sectors, especially if provide then a better standard of living without a drop in wage.
- \* it will be more equitable- providing those with caring responsibilities more opportunities to engage in the workplace.
- \*workers will be more efficient and effective for the hours they are there.
- \*a policy like this will position the ACT government as an employer of note, that cares about its work force, and would put pressure on other state and government employers to follow the policy, lifting the standard of employment and entitlements across more than just the ACT gov. You need to compete with the commonwealth somehow.

I think the key thing is, however these hours are implemented, that it does not come at the cost of a person's current wage. The intent is to lesson hours, not lesson an income. As well as that, this should not be a false 4 day week, where people work additional hours Monday -Thursday in order to take a Friday off. That undermines the benefits, as it will see people working the same hours, just over a compressed period.

Lower the working hours to 30 hrs a week, which can be either 6 hrs spread over 5 days a week, or 7.5 over 4 days a week, and do not reduce wages while Doing it.

Kind regards,  
Penny

Sent from my iPhone