



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

REGULATION COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE DISALLOWANCE OF THE MUSIC FESTIVAL LICENSING REGULATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

28 August 2019

The Regulation Committee today tabled its report into the Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019. The committee made four findings and six recommendations, including the disallowance of the regulations.

The Hon Mick Veitch MLC, Chair of the Committee said: 'There is strong industry support for the disallowance of the regulations, given this and the issues that have been presented to the committee during this inquiry, the committee has recommended that the regulations be disallowed. This is now a matter for the Parliament to decide.'

The Chair continued: 'Industry stakeholders told the committee of the lack of consultation during the development of the regulations and the rushed approach taken by the government for implementation. We also heard that the regulations have caused uncertainty across the industry, with many still confused as to which festivals will be captured by the new licensing scheme, how they are being assessed and the financial implications to event organisers'.

The committee has recommended that a regulatory roundtable for music festivals be immediately established. The Chair said: 'The regulatory roundtable will include key industry stakeholders and relevant government agencies and it is essential that the NSW Government act on this recommendation immediately, given the impending music festival season'.

In addition, the Chair stated: 'We note that drug and alcohol harm at music festivals is a complex issue and we await the findings of the NSW Coroner's report into the deaths at music festivals. Any findings and recommendations that are handed down by the Coroner, we have recommended that the NSW Government take to the regulatory roundtable for industry and stakeholder consideration'.

For further information on the inquiry, including the report, please visit the committee's website at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/regulationcommittee.

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For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Mick Veitch MLC, on 9230 2714