

**Submission
No 108**

**INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN
NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Prof Philip Hayward

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As a sixty year old with many decades interest in music and as a music academic who has studied the live music cultures of locations in Europe and the Western Pacific region I have a broad contextual overview of the nature of live music in NSW in general in in Sydney in particular.

I can say, without qualification, that NSW has an impoverished live music culture not only in comparison to Victoria/Melbourne – which exemplifies intelligent and proactive support for music culture – but with regards to similar regions in Europe and internationally.

The laws, regulations and restrictions on live music venues in NSW are beyond excessive and are inhibiting creative and economic opportunities for musicians and music entrepreneurs and are also impoverishing the cultural public (including tourists) by severely limiting their access to live music.

Pro-active policy to encourage, facilitate and protect music venues' right to operate (and without the imposition of excessive financial outlay on their part) is vital and is much overdue.

The Parliament of NSW needs to take prompt and decisive action on this area in order to remove the unwarranted repression of live music venues in the state and to recognise that cultural consumers and participants have rights to their activities that should not be infringed by excessive focus on other aspects of civic management.