

**Submission
No 410**

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

Name: Mr Sam McNally

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portfoliocommittee6@parliament.nsw.gov.au
To whom it may concern
24 March, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a professional musician of 40 years' experience. My resume is attached. I work at multiple levels of the Music Industry - small clubs, corporate events, big concerts, recording, and in the music education sector.

The NSW Government has recently announced endeavours to promote Sydney as a fun night-time city. Three situations listed below, exemplify something very different. Live Music in Sydney is presently in a state of CRISIS, due to unfathomable levels of bureaucracy and over-regulation, combined with police harassment.

This week, a brand new live music club in Kings Cross, named "Prohibition", was promptly shut down on day two of trading, with threats of draconian fines. The suddenness of this closure, suggests corruption at high levels. It is outrageous that a business with immense financial investment behind it, plus meticulous diligence in complying with regulations, should be forced to close without explanation, on its second day of trading.

"Lazybones" in Marrickville - a club/restaurant, successfully operating now for nearly 5 years and in absolute compliance with local government - is being subjected to harassment and bullying from local police on a regular basis.

Sydney's iconic The Basement "jazz, blues and other" club - a fixture in Sydney since 1973 - is threatened with closure, probably due to the outrageous rent in its CBD location. The loss of this icon in Sydney represents a major crisis indeed.

I urge the NSW government to take very seriously, the state of "live music" in clubs, bars and hotels across Sydney. I know that there are one or two official bodies involved in bringing this matter to government's attention at an official level, but I hereby add my personal "vote" to this subject, as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely,

SAM McNALLY.

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