

**Submission
No 415**

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

Name: Mr Dave Longo

Date received: 12 April 2018

Hello Hon Paul Green MLC,

My name is Dave Longo. I am a professional Guitar/Bass player and run a small studio.

I perform live and record original music since 1989. I am lucky to have performed with some of the great artists Australia has to offer.

When I moved to Sydney in 1996 in my 1st 6 months of being here, I was working minimum of 2 gig's a week.

Currently I may have between 2-4 weeks without work.

The amount I work in live venues has dropped 30-40%.

In 1996 I could live in a 1 bedroom and my wage from 1.5 pub gigs would cover it. Pub gig in 1996 \$120

Now in 2018 I get \$85 to play in some pubs. My rent in a small 3 bedroom house is \$650. My wife and I are both musicians.

The scene is terrible. The amount of gigs has diminished greatly.

Lockouts have closed down 3 venues that I would have worked at. Pokies late 90's early 2000's took out at least 4 great venues I performed at that have original music.

Currently my wife and I are low income earners. We have 1 children with learning disabilities and 1 with a brain tumour.

We use the credit card to survive on as we can't afford to eat with out it.

We are moving away this year and will most likely change professions.

We love to work but due to these news laws and pokies and free music on the internet, music is a hobby or for those with money already.

As I have no more belief in the government, I have no ideas as to how to help it.

Kind regards

Dave Longo

Web <http://www.realguitarrecordings.com>