

Submission  
No 27

**INQUIRY INTO LIQUOR AMENDMENT (MUSIC  
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019 AND GAMING AND  
LIQUOR ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT (MUSIC  
FESTIVALS) REGULATION 2019**

**Organisation:** Reason Australia

**Date Received:** 5 July 2019

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5 July 2019

The Honourable Mick Veitch MLC  
Chairperson  
Regulation Committee  
Legislative Council of NSW

Email: [Regulation.Committee@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Regulation.Committee@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

**Inquiry into Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019 and  
Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019**

Reason Australia is a Federally registered political party with members in every state of Australia including NSW. We support evidence-based public policy that is socially progressive and economically prudent.

Our organisation supports a vibrant music festival industry. Music festivals contribute economically to the state as well as playing an important social and cultural role.

The lack of expert and industry consultation and the rushed nature of the regulations is of particular concern and we commend the work of The Hon John Graham and Ms Cate Faehrmann in bringing these regulations before this committee.

Regulations need to be very carefully considered and must strike the right balance of providing for the safety of festival goers whilst avoiding imposing onerous obligations on organisers.

Reason strongly advocates for drug law reform including pill testing services at festivals. The NSW government needs to listen to the experts and adopt a harm reduction approach to drug policy. In addition to pill testing there is an urgent need to establish an agency to monitor drug markets which could provide an early warning system to consumers.

**Recommendation:** That the government scrap these regulations and develop a regulatory model after close consultation with the industry and experts in the field of harm reduction such as Unharm, The Loop and / or Pill Testing Australia.

Kind Regards,

Craig Ellis  
Management Committee  
Reason Australia

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