

Submission
No 47

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

Organisation: APRA AMCOS

Date Received: 15 July 2019



**APRA
AMCOS**

15 July 2019

**The Hon Mick Veitch, MLC
Chair
Regulation Committee
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000**

Dear Chair

Liquor Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019

Gaming and Liquor Administration Amendment (Music Festivals) Regulation 2019

APRA AMCOS has been representing Australian songwriters, composers and publishers since 1926. With over 100,000 members across Australia and New Zealand, our membership includes the very best and brightest of established and emerging musical talent at home and around the globe. We administer rights on their behalf, supporting songwriters, composers and publishers in an industry that is a flagship of Australian culture and creativity, generating billions of dollars each year for the Australian economy.

We are affiliated with similar collective management organisations around the world. So when Australian and New Zealand songs and compositions are played overseas, Australian and New Zealand writers get paid. We also help music customers in Australia and New Zealand access music from the rest of the world.

We work in partnership with government to support the development and career paths within Australian music through the cornerstones of live music, digital distribution, local venues, education and the global stage. APRA AMCOS has successfully initiated and lead industry and government co-investment strategies, developing highly regarded capacity building programs, most notably; SongMakers, Live Music Office, SongHubs and SOUNDS AUSTRALIA.

As well, we advocate on behalf of music creators' rights and the Australasian music industry locally, nationally and internationally. Our Ambassador Program includes over 150 influential music creators representing the breadth and diversity of our membership, music publishers, and other industry stakeholders such as music venue operators and music managers. Collectively we promote the importance of music creators' rights and our role in administering those rights to industry, all levels of government, the media and the wider community.

Most recently, APRA AMCOS worked with the Australian Government on the development of their \$30.9 million Australian Music Industry Package which provides funding for a range of measures and includes grants to assist Australian small businesses to host more live music and new mentoring programs to encourage greater representation of women and Indigenous artists in the music industry.

16 Mountain Street
Ultimo NSW 2007

Locked Bag 5000
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

+61 2 9935 7900
apra@apra.com.au

apraamcos.com.au



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APRA AMCOS established the Live Music Office (LMO) in 2013 and continues to fund the LMO. The LMO works to increase opportunities for live music in Australia by identifying and advocating for better policy, regulation and strategy in connection with live music. APRA AMCOS has been provided a copy of LMO's submission to the Inquiry and endorses the recommendations contained in that submission.

The music industry is a sector that touches the lives and provides enjoyment for millions across the state, generating billions of dollars in economic and tourism revenue. And Sydney is a major industry centre for music in Australasia particularly for festivals, concerts and events. However, this is at risk as the sector faces significant disruption by rushed government policy and a lack of a meaningful whole-of-government consultation with the sector.

We highlight, in particular, the importance of the NSW Government to adhere to its own Better Regulation Principles and the need to properly consult with key stakeholders and not rush the implementation of new regulations. APRA AMCOS was a signatory to the following joint statement issued on 20 February 2019 with our colleagues at Australian Festival Association, Live Performance Australia, MusicNSW and the Live Music Office:

We urge the Government to come to the table with a commitment to genuine and extensive consultation that includes a commitment to defer the 1 March start date for the new licensing requirements so we can understand the economic, cultural and operational impacts of the new regulations.

APRA AMCOS is strongly of the view that the roundtables, inquiry and public hearings into the state's music festivals comprise an important step by the Regulation Committee to ensure that NSW remains music friendly while maintaining a proper balance between safety, community, cultural and economic concerns. A good policy outcome based on robust research will build on the role festivals have contributing to NSW's economy, helping to enhance the liveability of the state for the foreseeable future.

If we can be of any further assistance in regards to this inquiry please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Nicholas Pickard
Director Public Affairs, Communications and Events
APRA AMCOS