

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

Organisation: Mothership Events

Date Received: 5 July 2019

We align ourselves with the research and work of The Australian Festival Association who we believe as an organisation have the required experience and expertise to add valuable insight into currently proposed regulations.

It is vital that live music industry professionals have a strong voice at the table when discussing large scale changes that effect the industry we work in on a daily basis.

It is a resource that shouldn't be undervalued or ignored.

In summary we see the following as the major take outs of the regulations:

ISSUES:

- * Use of the Liquor Act to address a complex health and safety issue.
- * Definitions do not fit with current industry understanding [i.e concert vs festival]
- * Discretionary power allows for subjective decisions to be made by ILGA
- * Significantly increased police powers that are not only unaffordable in many instances, but also intimidatory and overbearing to our customers.
- * The strategy of drug dog detection policy and use.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- * Remove the current regulations.
- * Manage the sale and supply of liquor through existing suitable license arrangements.
- * Manage health-related risks at music festivals through NSW Health.
- * Establish a Regulatory Roundtable for Festivals in NSW including industry peak body the AFA and chosen festival representatives.
- * Significantly increase investment in Peer-based Harm Reduction Services.

Work with health, festival and drug experts to develop pill-testing trials at permanent and festival based locations.

- * A more collaborative approach to user pays policing and drug detection strategies, between NSW Police and festival organisers.