



AUSTRALIAN FESTIVAL
ASSOCIATION

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**AUSTRALIAN FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION
MEDIA RELEASE**

Major Music Festivals To Consider Their Future in NSW

The Australian Festival Association, Live Performance Australia & APRA AMCOS met yesterday with the Hon. Victor Dominello Minister for Customer Service to raise concerns about proposed music festival legislation and to repeat our request for a Music Festival Industry Roundtable be established.

At the meeting, the NSW Government committed to further consultation after the passage of the Bill, but stopped short of committing to the establishment of industry's reasonable ask for a roundtable in the legislation.

Uncertainty and a lack of meaningful consultation has a punitive effect on our businesses, the creative economy, jobs and tourism in live music in NSW.

As a result, members of the Australian Festival Association will now consider their futures in NSW.

"We have reasonably asked that our industry be consulted prior to any regulatory changes. The music industry has repeatedly offered to work with government and has, since February this year, called for an industry roundtable to be established to develop a workable framework. Yet again, last week we saw new legislation for music festivals introduced by this Government without any consultation", **said Adelle Robinson, Managing Director, Fuzzy Operations**

"Our industry generates over \$1 billion nationally and employs thousands of people, especially in regional NSW. There are other states outside NSW that are willing to better support our business. We may be left with no choice but to consider our options." **said Danny Rogers, Co-Director, Laneway Festival**

"Industry consultation and input is vital in developing balanced legislation. Without entering into meaningful engagement with the Industry, Government is condemning the future of Festivals not only operating successfully, but thriving in NSW. It will be music-lovers in NSW that will ultimately miss out", **said Rod Little, Co-Director, Cattleyard Promotions**

"NSW has the opportunity to stop playing politics with our businesses and livelihoods. The live music industry has managed to flourish for decades without this endless nanny state interference. Let us get on with making the state a culturally vibrant destination." **said Tim Levinson, Urthboy**

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ABOUT AFA

The Australian Festival Association (AFA) was formed to represent the shared interests and importance of the Australian festival industry. The AFA is committed to delivering safe and well-run festivals around Australia and providing a framework for industry operating standards. Our members are committed to ensuring the ongoing viability of festivals as thriving businesses, significant municipal events and sites of global cultural exchange in the interest of all Australians.