

14/09/2021

Subject: *Live Performance Federal Insurance Guarantee Fund Bill 2021*

Dear Committee,

It is without hesitation that I offer our full support and submission to the committee on the importance of the referred Live Performance Federal Insurance Guarantee Fund Bill and how this fund has the ability to kickstart our industry.

EVENTelec is a family-owned and operated business established in 1996. We provide specialised temporary electrical distribution and power overlay to major events, festivals and the live music sector throughout Australia.

All we need to kick start our industry is allowing the promoters and organisers to run. By backing them will give them the confidence to stage their events and tours. By introducing an industry Insurance guarantee fund would give them the confidence to do so. (it's truly that simple)

In the current environment the common reason our clients are cancelling; the risk is too high without insurance. Once the majority of the Australian population is vaccinated and the borders start to open, there is still no guarantee lockdowns will not continue into the future so our clients will still carry an enormous risk.

This is where an Industry Insurance fund will give confidence and kickstart the industry. It is not just the promoters that will benefit; it gives confidence for the entire industry, the artist and the supply chain to start investing again, re-employing knowing we will get paid if there is a sudden lockdown and the event is cancelled at last minute. It will also give the public confidence to support and buy tickets and that the industry is financially backed up.

Of course, we will require detailed and strong working parameters and guidelines of trigger dates or scaling points which I am sure can be achieved for the best outcome.

Pre-COVID, EVENTelec powered up over 112 major events and festivals annually and employed over 25 technically trained staff of electricians, apprentices and sub-contractors. Since 13th March 2020 we lost over 90% of our confirmed events/work, 70% of our staff and experienced a revenue loss of over \$4.5million and this continues. Our staff and management have been on 3 days a week wages for 18 months until recently when we started to rebuild.

Unfortunately, due to the current lockdowns and closed borders we have gone back to square one looking at a 3rd financial year lose whilst trying to hold onto staff. Our business cannot rebuild without trained industry technicians. The toll financially is difficult on a small business, the mental health stress is a continuous challenge and battle for us to manage not only ourselves but the wellbeing of our staff and their families that continue to commit to our industry. Our core staff and management are both passionate and dedicated to our business and the industry.

We need the promoters and organisers to be able to get going and operate which will provide our company the ability to re-employ and start to rebuild again.

The major events and live music industry **organisers and promoters** are the kick starters to our industry and the supply chain, the companies such as ourselves that supply and build these events and shows.

We need long term innovative bold schemes such as the LIVE PERFORMANCE FEDERAL INSURANCE GUARANTEE FUND that will ensure that our industry can bring joy back to so many Australians who love to attend events, festivals or live performances. This will give us the opportunity and ability to rebuild, reinvest post COVID back into the industry.

I urge you to look favourability to this Bill and support our Live Performance industry.

I can be contacted for further information.

Kind regards,



ADAM MCCANN | General Manager
EVENTelec