

From: Lachlan McLeod
To: [Committee, Communications \(REPS\)](#)
Subject: Protect Our Recordings
Date: Wednesday, 22 August 2018 5:23:03 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

My Name is Lachlan McLeod and I welcome the government inquiry into the Australian Music Industry.

I am a member of APRA/AMCOS and I'm a multi instrumentalist. I write songs and compose music.

I have released 4 independent CDs and they have all been stolen from me through illegal copying of my work.

In one case alone, my first CD release was pirated by the very company who were distributing it.

In short, as us musicians release product, that product is unprotected and open to theft.

The audio recording software that is used to make CDs in the recording studios is heavily protected by licenses but the software we release (CDs) is unprotected.

You may say that today's music is largely consumed through downloads or online listening like Spotify, and as such is not able to be stolen.

The price we get for a single online play is about \$0.0008 cents.

That's 8 thousandths of a cent. Not much. Close to theft.

In short, all recorded product is now either open to theft or to ridiculously low returns.

We now live in an age where the current generation have never bought music, though it's a big part of their lives, and they don't see that the way they consume it is theft.

The consequence is that music is now seen as a free commodity.

PEOPLE NEED TO PAY FOR RECORDED MUSIC AGAIN. That will require legislation and policing, just like any other industry polices and protects its output.

My father is a wheat farmer. I asked him the other day what he would do if he woke up one morning and saw people lined up at his wheat silo taking bags of wheat for free.

He said he would tell them to stop. But they just say.. "it's not much we are taking. We don't have to pay for wheat."

He said he'd have to stop growing wheat.

I said we still go on making music, despite the theft.

He said... "What a hopeless industry"

He's right.

Please, please help!

**Yours Sincerely
Lachlan McLeod**

Lachlan McLeod
www.lachlanmcleod.com