

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Inquiry into the Live Performance Federal Insurance Guarantee Fund Bill 2021

Division: Environment Industry and Infrastructure Division
Topic: Impact of COVID-19 on arts sector
Reference: Spoken (14 October 2021)
Senator: Sarah Hanson-Young

Question:

Senator GREEN: Right. Could I ask Treasury: what has been the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the live entertainment and events industry in terms of economic output and jobs?

Ms Zaheed: It might be that one of my Arts colleagues can answer. I don't think I've got that in front of me in terms of a specific breakdown. I'm not sure, Dr Arnott, if that's one you can answer from the information you've got in front of you.

Dr Arnott: I might ask my colleague Leonie Holloway to let you know what we can provide to you, Senator, on that question.

ACTING CHAIR: Sorry, before we hear from you, I'd just like to know: has Treasury done any work in relation to this issue, or is it all left to the team within the communications department?

Ms Zaheed: Various colleagues of mine have done work in relation to the economic impact of COVID. In terms of exactly breaking it down, segment by segment, I'd have to take it on notice and see—

ACTING CHAIR: Could you please take that on notice. I'd like to know what sectors within the arts and entertainment sector you have looked at the impact and the modelling for, seeing as it's the No. 1 sector that's had the most job losses, the most hours cut, the most money lost.

Answer:

Treasury provides advice on whole of economy impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and regularly monitors outcomes of various sectors of the economy including the arts and recreation sectors (for example, see ABS payroll jobs data at <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/latest-release>).

Treasury published an *Insights from the first six months of JobKeeper* report on 11 October 2021 which includes additional data and analysis on the arts and recreation sector. It can be found on the following webpage: <http://treasury.gov.au/publication/p2021-211978>

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Inquiry into the Live Performance Federal Insurance Guarantee Fund Bill 2021

Division: Environment Industry and Infrastructure Division
Topic: Costing for insurance for live entertainment industry
Reference: Spoken (14 October 2021)
Senator: Nita Green

Question:

Senator GREEN: Right. So we've done analysis or we've got figures about the job losses and the impact on the industry. This is a question for Treasury, and I assume this has been done. Have you been asked to cost a proposal for insurance for the live entertainment industry—for a fund?

Ms Zaheed: Not that I'm aware of.

Senator GREEN: Even though there's this private member's bill there that parliament might pass pretty quickly if they wanted to, and we're headed back to Canberra next week, you don't know or you haven't been asked to find out how much it might cost?

Ms Zaheed: To the best of my knowledge, I don't think we've costed it. I'm happy to take it on notice and see if there's further information, but as far as I'm aware we haven't.

Senator GREEN: If you could take it on notice, and if you could table the costings if they've been done, that would be helpful. Thank you. I'll leave it there.

Answer:

Treasury has not been asked to cost a proposal for insurance for the live entertainment industry.