**IMPORTANT NOTE: This letter is for MDs/company owners/senior directors/**

**Please edit this letter to suit your circumstances**

Your company headed paper or contact address

Remember to include email and telephone

MP’s Name

MP’s Address [You can find your local MP here](https://www.aph.gov.au/senators_and_members/members)

Date:

Dear name of MP

I am writing [again] on behalf of [company name] in [name of electorate] to express the gravity of the situation we face. We employ [add number] staff and are a [manufacturer/ distributer/rental & production/professional service/events company/venue etc] serving [theatre/music/live performance/entertainments/events industry] in your electorat. By [add date], we will be forced to make [add number] of staff redundant. [Company name] has been a viable and profitable contributor to the economy since [year you began trading] but now faces the possibility of collapse due to the cancellation of all live events.

The recently announced federal arts rescue packages may sound like good news for the events industry, but in reality, the funding will not reach businesses like [company name]. The Prime Minister’s $250 million plans to restart Australia’s creative economy and $400 million incentive for the film and screen industry completely omits thousands of workers in audio, lighting, staging, video professions by targeting already-funded major arts institutions and film producers respectively. If any funding reaches our business, it will likely be a small trickle-down as a single project several months on from now. Despite these programs, our business and hundreds like ours have no direct way to apply for financial assistance.

**Below is a snapshot of my current situation and outlook based on the Government support available to us:**

* Since March, our income has dropped by [XX%] and will not see income until [add date 2020/21]
* We [did/ did not] receive a [Retail, Hospitality and Leisure] / [Small Business] Grant [reason if not]
* We [were / were not] eligible for the $100,000 cashflow payment [make note if your payment was absorbed by ATO]
* We will have to cease trading soon as we will become insolvent by [add month 2020]
* We will have to make [add number] people redundant, creating unemployment in your electorate

Our business is one of thousands that work behind the scenes in live events. Every show relies on a complex supply chain involving hundreds of professionals, from manufacturing and distribution to production design and stage crew; in [Australia up to 443 people are involved in every performance.](https://www.facebook.com/WeMakeEventsAus/photos/a.115926910224141/115927876890711)

We have not delivered a major show since [March 2020] and current government plans make no mention of when live events may be able to return to normal. Frustratingly, while stadiums are allowed to host sports games there are no provisions to host live music, concerts and special events in spaces of any size which makes us unable to operate.

As a member of your electorate we need you to help those in government understand the devastating impact that not supporting the events supply chain would have. It is a much wider problem than the government has currently provided funds for. This is a highly skilled and developed industry that delivers and exports world class products and events on behalf of the Australia, with the country and its industry workers renowned across the globe for their expertise.

**My company needs the Government to review financial support for our industry as we work in a sector that will not start to see income generation until 2021. I am calling for the government to extend financial support for my sector in the form of:**

* **Capital grants, not loans** on cost of commercial rent, lease payments, insurance, business rates, tax breaks; and request the banks give longer mortgage holidays to businesses in our sector.
* **Extensions of the JobKeeper scheme at its original full rate** until the live events industry is able to trade once again.

**We need your voice to bring attention to the supply chain for entertainment and events which has been forgotten yet adds enormous value to the Australian economy**. I ask you to raise these issues in debates, letters, forums or whichever measures you feel will be most effective. If we don’t get help, we will lose valuable skilled people and companies across Australia and in your electorate, and we would all have used the government support schemes just to delay the inevitable.

I urgently await your response.

**Yours sincerely,**

**[Company owner/MD]**