

Submission by [REDACTED] -4 April 2024

I believe APRA's ability to collect royalties should be truncated. Small and not for profit organisations who provide a demonstrable public service should be excluded. My personal experience was that their charges in addition to our other expenses pushed us to the brink of unviability, with the big loser being the community we serve. I also believe APRA should not be able to collect royalties for music in films. Those who contribute music to films are paid at the time of production so royalty payments are double dipping. Added to that the music in films is at best background and at times you are unable to even discern what song it is. No one goes to see a film because it features a song because chances are you didn't realise the song was there until you saw the film... it is not a drawcard that adds to the film's profitability. It is the film exhibitors who bear this cost and film exhibition is such a marginal business so this additional cost is significant... we are seeing so many independent cinemas disappear and are left with only big chains... reducing variety (of films offered and the film going experience) and reducing competition (driving up ticket prices), damaging film culture and driving down audiences... creating a vicious cycle that rewards people who had next to no input in creating the film (music in film is more often a pre-existing piece rather than one made solely for the film). I am willing to expand on this further.