

NATIONAL INDEPENDENT VENUE ASSOCIATION SET TO TESTIFY BEFORE SENATE PANEL AS THE INDUSTRY DESPERATELY WAITS FOR CONGRESS TO PASS THE SAVE OUR STAGES ACT

Dec. 14, 2020 – Co-chair of [The National Independent Venue Association](#)'s Advocacy Committee, Adam Hartke, who owns WAVE and The Cotillion in Wichita, and has been invited to testify before the Senate Committee on Commerce Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 10am ET.

This hearing before a the Subcommittee on Manufacturing, Trade, and Consumer Protection, which is chaired by U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), will examine the impact of COVID-19 on the live entertainment industry and will focus on the challenges faced by artists, venues, and supporting industries such as lighting and transportation. Proposals for legislative relief including unemployment compensation, healthcare subsidies, and the Save Our Stages Act will be examined.

Everyone can view the hearing online here:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2020/12/examining-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-live-event-entertainment->

As more time passes without the emergency relief, venues continue to disappear. Already, hundreds of venues have shuttered permanently since COVID-19 forced the industry to a standstill in March. NIVA supports the Save Our Stages Act led by Senators John Cornyn (R-TX) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and led by Representatives Peter Welch (D-VT) and Roger Williams (R-TX) which would provide a critical lifeline for independent venues. The bill has significant bipartisan support with more than 230 co-sponsors. NIVA also supports extension of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance for the millions that have been furloughed and laid off.

About NIVA

Formed at the onset of the COVID-19 shutdown, National Independent Venue Association (NIVA), now represents more than 3,000 members in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. These independent venues and promoters were the first to close and will be the last to fully reopen. NIVA's mission is to preserve and nurture the ecosystem of independent live venues, promoters and festivals throughout the United States. To learn more about NIVA's quest to gain federal funding for independent venues, visit <https://www.nivassoc.org/take-action>. The [National Independent Venue Foundation](#) has been created to focus on separate, supplemental initiatives, such as the [Emergency Relief Fund](#).

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