

Gina Alibrio
Portland, ME

My name is Gina Alibrio and I am a full time musician in the city of Portland, Maine. Before the pandemic, I would play live in various venues in town up to five times a week. Anywhere from live music venues, to bars, to dinner music at restaurants. I had been working for 20 years on a musical career that was financially sustainable. In order to do that you need to be able to play live and play OFTEN. The pandemic changed all that. I now work in a cubicle in an office, mostly due to the fact that relief wasn't available to independent musicians in Maine until summer of 2020 and I had to support myself. I had no other option. Musicians and music venues bring in consumers who in turn also support the other businesses in direct proximity. Musicians provide a reason for patrons to enter a bar or restaurant, stay longer, and purchase more. We directly impact a tourism economy, and yet we have been given barely any relief at all. Nothing that has been offered to me or my fellow full time musicians in town comes close to what we need to survive. All of the beloved venues we've played at and grown a fanbase at, are in danger of closing. The artistic future of our community depends on LD1566. We need this now more than ever. Thank you for your time.