



The Rev. The Hon. Fred Nile MLC ED., L.Th.,



Member of the Legislative Council
Deputy Chair, Privileges Committee
Parliamentary Leader, Christian Democratic Party
Parliament House, Macquarie Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000
Telephone: (02) 9230 2478 Facsimile: (02) 9230 2098
Email: f.nile@parliament.nsw.gov.au

MEDIA RELEASE

**OPPOSITION TO PILL TESTING RISING
AMONG COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONALS**

For immediate circulation

Rev Fred Nile MLC makes the following additional statements in relation to today's media commentary on the NSW Coroner's recommendations to introduce pill testing and stop of the practice of police searches of attendees at music festivals.

Rev Fred Nile MLC makes the following additional statements in relation to today's media commentary on the NSW Coroner's recommendations to introduce pill testing and stop of the practice of police searches of attendees at music festivals.

- "I am heartened to read that anti-drug campaigner Tony Wood believe drug education in NSW is failing. This echoes my comments of yesterday that what needs to be done is to focus on the source of the problem. I believe that a large part of this problem is not just the availability of drugs, but the fact that young people have become desensitised to the risks of taking them."
- "Pill testing would logically increase access to drugs by giving the false appearance that they are 'safe'. Regulating access to alcohol in places like Sydney's Kings Cross have reduced the rate of violent crime. Pill testing would logically have the opposite effect: more harm would be done, not less."

- “Recent media comment makes it very clear that the public is in favour of drug sniffer dogs and searches at large scale music festivals. This is the place where drugs are sold and consumed in large quantities, and it goes to reason that this is where the police must concentrate their efforts.”
- “The Coroner’s recommendations also include the decriminalisation of the use of drugs for personal use. I will continue to strongly oppose any such policy or law. Personal choices sometimes have very public consequences. When it comes to the consumption of drugs, no responsible government can turn a blind eye to this on the basis that it’s an individual choice. Drugs destroy people, and the families and communities that are part of also suffer.”

END

Media inquiries:

Rev. Hon. Fred Nile MLC (02) 9230 2478

16 October 2019

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fred Nile". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev Hon Fred Nile MLC