MEDIA RELEASE

Question to the Government:

The Truth About Covid19 Fatality Rates

For immediate circulation

On the 16th of September 2020, Rev Hon Fred Nile MLC put the following question to the Government concerning the truth about the Corona19 fatality rates as reported by the US based Center for Disease Control. The following transcript has been extracted from the NSW Parliamentary *Hansard*:

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE (12:27:17): *My question without notice is addressed to the Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women, representing the Minister for Health and Medical Research. Will the Minister confirm that the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] has updated its figures for the fatality rate of the COVID-19 virus, which now show that only 6 per cent of deaths were completely caused by the virus itself—that is, just 9,000 and not 153,000 deaths? Will the Minister assure the House that similar outrageous discrepancies in the way that the data has been recorded are not being repeated here in New South Wales? Moreover, will the Minister confirm that the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports, namely that there has been a corresponding drop in infant mortality with "a sharp decline in provider orders for vaccines as well as a decline in paediatric vaccine doses administered"— [Time expired.]*

The PRESIDENT: *The Minister is at liberty to answer that part of the question she believes that she can. She is also at liberty to look at the question if she wants.*

The Hon. BRONNIE TAYLOR *(Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women) (12:28:44): I thank the honourable member for his question. It is quite detailed with a lot of different parts. He asks about the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]. I do not have those figures with me at the moment. New South Wales now has 3,987 patients confirmed with COVID-19 and—I am sad to say—54 lives have been lost in our State. They are caused by a likely source of infection.*

There have been some cases acquired overseas; that is over 2,000 people. Ninety have been acquired interstate and 1,393 have been locally acquired through contact with a confirmed case in a known cluster. We know that 86 people with COVID-19 are in the care of NSW Health, including in intensive care units, other ward types, Hospital in the Home or other out-of-hospital care. It has been very well managed. I have spoken to quite a number of families that have had family members who have tested positive, such as young children attending school. They have been very complimentary about the way the services in NSW Health have been supporting them at home and through the community by phoning them every day and checking in.

The Commonwealth reported that as at 7.00 p.m. on 13 September 2020 there were 26,651 patients who had been confirmed to have COVID-19 in Australia, including 1,149 in Queensland, 19,835 in Victoria—a very difficult time for the Victorians—659 in Western Australia, 466 in South Australia, 230 in Tasmania, 33 in the Northern Territory and 113 in our nation's capital. I have said numerous times in the House that New South Wales and Australia as a nation have done such a terrific job in response to the pandemic. Everyone has worked together; that has been a really great thing. The people who need the biggest shout-out are the people who have worked on the pandemic in NSW Health.

[...]

COVID-19 The Hon. BRONNIE TAYLOR *(Minister for Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women) (13:28:10): I have additional information to the question that was directed to me in my capacity representing Minister Hazzard in the other place by Reverend the Hon. Fred Nile. As of 12.16 p.m. the total cases in the USA were 6,537,627. That is an increase of 34,597 cases since yesterday. The total deaths in the USA is at 194,092. That is an increase of 387 deaths since yesterday. In the past seven days there have been 250,265 new cases of COVID-19 in the United States. In the past 24 hours in New South Wales there has been increase in testing, with 19,566 tests carried out. Only 10 new cases were reported; six cases are linked to people in hotel quarantine and four are linked to known clusters.*