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L.Th.,

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MEDIA RELEASE
REMEMBRANCE DAY
For immediate circulation

Remembrance Day has become a symbolic moment during which we as a nation commemorate all those who fell in war fighting for God, King and Country. Yesterday, the Rev Hon. Fred Nile MLC delivered a speech to the Legislative Council in support of a motion that marks this significant date in our national calendar. The speech is reproduced below, extracted from the Parliamentary *Hansard*.

Reverend the Hon. FRED NILE (11:28:37): I support this motion reminding us of Remembrance Day, and I thank the Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones for her efforts in bringing it to the House and for sharing her own remarks with the House. The motion encourages us to remember that Remembrance Day is a significant day to commemorate the armistice of the First World War and to remember our service men and women. From a population of less than five million, over 330,000 Australians served during the First World War, with more than 150,000 wounded, gassed or taken prisoner and more than 60,000 who made the ultimate sacrifice in giving their lives for our country.

On Remembrance Day the body of an unknown Australian soldier from the Western Front was laid to rest in the Hall of Memory at the Australian War Memorial to acknowledge over 16,900 Australians who remain unknown or unidentified from the Western Front. I support the motion which reminds us:

That this House notes that communities across New South Wales will pause to remember the sacrifice of Australian service men and women ... Remembrance Day services have had to be modified because of this pandemic. I support the motion, which states:

That this House acknowledges the:
(a) service and sacrifice of Australia's current and former serving men and women and thank them for their service; and
(b) families, friends and organisations who support our veterans.

For me, Remembrance Day has a personal aspect to it as I am reminded of my father, who has the same name as me—Frederick John Nile. He served in the British Army's Gloucestershire Regiment during World War I in France when he was only 17. Remarkably, he was severely wounded by German machine guns and sent back to the British hospitals in the UK for treatment. After he was restored to full health, they sent him back to France again to face the Germans. The Germans had two opportunities to deal with him. If they had been successful then I would not be here today. I thank him for his service when he volunteered to serve in World War I when aged only 17. A number of my relatives served in the Australian Army, including in the Middle East and Malaya. Some were buried in Malaya at the end of the Second World War. Remember all those who have served our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice. God bless them.

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