

MEDIA RELEASE

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FEDERAL PARLIAMENT ACKNOWLEDGES INTERNATIONAL PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS REMEMBRANCE DAY 2018

Stillbirth Foundation Australia welcomes the multi-party support and <u>acknowledgement</u> of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day in Federal Parliament today.

Stillbirth Foundation Australia CEO, Kate Lynch, said today is an important occasion to support families touched by stillbirth and the Parliament's acknowledgement will mean a great deal to these families.

"Six children are stillborn every day in Australia and the impact this has on families lasts a lifetime," Ms Lynch said.

"International Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is a special day for thousands of families throughout Australia who will come together to remember babies who were lost so suddenly.

"Today we saw our Federal Parliamentarians acknowledge Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day and shine a light on an issue that has remained in the darkness for too long.

"This is an important acknowledgement for many families throughout the nation and the Foundation thanks all Parliamentarians who made this possible."

Today's recognition of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day comes after Labor's welcome commitment yesterday of providing \$5 million to reduce the rates of stillbirth.

The Foundation welcomed Prime Minister Scott Morrison's comments yesterday regarding bipartisan support to reduce rates of stillbirth.

"It is very welcome that our Federal Parliamentarians are showing the leadership to address this issue and we look forward to continuing to engage with all Parliamentarians to address the silent tragedy of stillbirth," Ms Lynch said.

"We need to shift stillbirth from a private tragedy to a public health issue and today's display in the Federal Parliament is an important step in achieving this," Ms Lynch said.

To find out more about Stillbirth Foundation Australia visit: www.stillbirthfoundation.org.au

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