

PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS REMEMBRANCE DAY

Statement by Member for Vasse

MS L. METTAM (Vasse — Leader of the Liberal Party) [12.50 pm]: I rise to acknowledge Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day, which was recognised on 15 October and has been formally recognised in this state since 2014. Its recognition ensures that babies lost through miscarriage, stillbirth or shortly after birth are remembered. It also provides an opportunity to acknowledge parents and family members who are deeply impacted by the loss of a baby. Preterm birth remains the single greatest cause of death and disability for children under the age of five, with one million babies dying due to preterm birth worldwide each year. John, Kate and Mary-Jane Delaney first brought this to the attention of the then Premier, Hon Colin Barnett, and ultimately to this Parliament, but their advocacy did not stop in Western Australia. Today, all states and territories have moved a motion of recognition—a great achievement. The Delaneys have also successfully advocated for buildings and landmarks to be illuminated pink and blue to raise greater community awareness of this day. My heartfelt thanks to John, Kate and Mary-Jane Delaney for their unwavering commitment and advocacy. I hope that the awareness and significance of Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day will continue to increase, even in a small way, along with the motion that was moved all those years ago.