

PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT

Notice of Motion

23 February 2017

1757 - REPEATED REFERRALS TO THE MERIT PROGRAM

That this House:

Notes efforts to assist offenders with substance abuse issues through the Magistrates Early Referral Into Treatment (MERIT) Program.

Notes that 26.2 per cent in 2014 and 25.5 per cent in 2013 of defendants referred to the MERIT program had previously been referred to the program.

Urges the Minister for Justice to undertake a review into the MERIT Program and determine strategies to lower repeat referral rates.