

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, people of all ages in Washington have developed a condition known as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) as a result of a single massive exposure or repeated low level exposures to toxic chemicals and other irritants in the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, MCS is recognized by the World Health Organization, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Social Security Administration, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Environmental Protection Agency, as well as other state and federal government agencies and commissions which have supported the health and welfare of the chemically injured; and

**WHEREAS**, MCS is a chronic condition for which there is no known cure; symptoms include chronic fatigue, muscle and joint pains, rashes, asthma, headaches, and other respiratory and neurological problems; and

**WHEREAS**, MCS can cause major financial, employment, housing, health, and social consequences for people who have this disability; and

**WHEREAS**, reasonable accommodations and information about recognition of MCS can provide opportunities for people with this disability to enjoy access to work, schooling, public facilities, and other settings where they can continue to contribute their professional skills, ideas, creativity, abilities, and knowledge; and

**WHEREAS**, people with MCS need the support and cooperation of family, friends, co-workers and society as they manage their condition and adapt to new life styles;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2008 as

### *Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Awareness Month*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to support understanding, education, and research of MCS.



Signed this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2008

*Christine O. Gregoire*

Governor Christine O. Gregoire