

South Australian Task Force on Multiple Chemical Sensitivity

DISABILITY ACCESS RALLY RECOGNISING **MULTIPLE CHEMICAL SENSITIVITY**

MONDAY, 23 MAY, 2011

12 MIDDAY – 2 PM

*PARLIAMENT HOUSE STEPS
NORTH TERRACE, ADELAIDE*

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity is a chronic medical condition where people are made sick by common chemicals in everyday products, often at levels assessed as “safe” by chemical regulators. MCS can be extremely disabling. Around 2% of the population are no longer able to work due to MCS.

People with MCS are routinely denied access to essential services due to chemical barriers, general ignorance and widespread discrimination. Safe access to health care is particularly difficult.

Numerous studies show that personal fragrances like perfume and aftershave are consistently and most frequently reported to cause symptoms of MCS.

In 2005 a Parliamentary Inquiry into MCS recommended the Department of Health consider “appropriate protocols and procedures that enable greater access to health care services for people with MCS.” The recommendation was rejected.

The rally calls on the state government to develop MCS disability access guidelines for ALL public health care services, consistent with MCS access policies adopted in the USA and Canada, and to immediately initiate controls on the use of perfume and aftershave in the public health care setting.

OUT OF RESPECT FOR PEOPLE WITH MCS PLEASE AVOID WEARING PERFUME, AFTER SHAVE, ESSENTIAL OILS, OR OTHER HIGHLY FRAGRANCED PRODUCTS AT THIS EVENT