

OHIO NETWORK FOR THE CHEMICALLY INJURED

Sharing, Support, Community Education and Advocacy

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Dear MCS Friends and Supporters in Ohio:

We are pleased to let you know that Ohio Senators Dale Miller (D-Cleveland) and Kevin Coughlin (R-Cuyahoga Falls) introduced Senate Bill No. 117 today to annually designate May as MCS Awareness Month in Ohio. Whether it passes or not is up to us. If your Ohio Senator does not hear from you he may not realize how important it is that MCS be recognized.

Now is our opportunity to educate those who have the power to help us. In order to ensure passage of the Bill, all Ohio Senators must hear from those living in their legislative district. **A link to S.B. No. 117 can be found on our website.** According to Senator Miller, this is how it works:

Please contact your Ohio **State** Senator (learn who they are online or by calling your local library) http://www.senate.state.oh.us/senators/by_name.html and **ask him/her to support, vote for and co-sponsor** Senator Miller & Coughlin's Senate Bill No. 117 - MCS Awareness Month Bill.

Our website www.ohionetwork.org contains educational literature and a published MCS Article with references that will help you educate your Senator about MCS. The following link to an excellent MCS website: www.alisonjohnsonmcs.com has a free 15 minute MCS video at the bottom of the website. The video includes interviews with 9/11 and Gulf War Victims who now have MCS. These references will give your Senators a quick, yet credible education about MCS.

Please act on this as soon as possible. Your statement can be brief and it can be handwritten. It can be emailed, faxed, or mailed. You can copy the attached draft of Senator Miller's email and just write on it "Please Co-Sponsor, I have MCS." and sign your name. Make sure your address appears on any communications to your Senator so they know you are one of their constituents.

This is a unique opportunity for MCS disability to be recognized and accommodated. Please send ONFCI a copy of your letter/note/email to your senator. We would like to let Senator Miller know which senators have been asked to co-sponsor the bill. This will also enable us to work on finding MCS sufferers in the remaining senate districts.

Even if your senator is not interested in co-sponsoring, ask him to vote in favor of the Bill. If your senators know what MCS is and know they have voters in their district who have it, we stand an excellent chance of having the Bill pass. If they don't hear from you, they probably won't vote for it. Ask your family and friends to join in your request for recognition and help from the Ohio Senate. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Toni Temple, President
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