



# Proclamation

Toxic injury, or multiple chemical sensitivity, is described as a chronic condition in which exposure to low levels of chemicals or other substances the environment cause adverse affects. Oftentimes debilitating, toxic injury is suspected to be caused by smoke, pesticides, plastic, synthetic fabrics, scented products, petroleum, paint and common household products.

Affecting all ages and both genders, symptoms of toxic injury range from mild to disabling and include anaphylactic shock, difficulty breathing, chest pains, hives, headaches, paralysis, seizures, visual disturbances and insomnia among other health challenges. As a result, toxic injury has been attributed to negatively affecting the respiratory, central nervous, immune and endocrine systems.

According to Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) Beacon of Hope Foundation, founded in 2000 by and for those who suffer from toxic injury and disabilities, 15 percent of the population report chemical sensitivity and just under half of those affected experience life-altering changes that lead to disability. Toxic injury diagnosis is based on six criteria: 1) The condition is chronic; 2) Symptoms recur reproducibly with repeated chemical exposure; 3) Symptoms recur in response to lower levels of chemicals than previously tolerated; 4) Symptoms appear in response to multiple chemically unrelated substances; 5) Symptoms improve when the offensive chemical is removed; 6) Multiple organ systems are affected.


As of yet, toxic injury has no cure. In Hawai'i, to increase the public's knowledge about this chronic condition, students and members of the community from the Sierra Club, American Heart and Lung Associations and MCS Hawai'i will participate in sign waving on July 28, 2010. In addition, there will be a gathering at Magic Island at Ala Moana Beach Park for anyone who is interested in learning more about toxic injury. Raising awareness in the community helps individuals maker safer choices, employ responsible practices and choose nontoxic products.

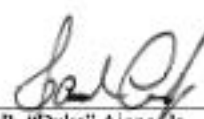
**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.,** Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **July 2010**, as

## **TOXIC INJURY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION MONTH**

in Hawai'i, and urge all citizens to increase awareness, education, understanding and research into the causes, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of toxic injury.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-second day of July 2010.

  
Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

  
James R. "Duke" Aiona Jr.  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i