



“SA Last Again?”

MEDIA RELEASE: February 28th, 2012

Each year for the last decade when the Australian Productivity Commission releases its annual expenditure on disability services report SA has finished stone motherless last for expenditure per disabled client

Outgoing ALP Premier Mike Rann who left last October with a “double full hand” e.g. 10 consecutive gongs, for this inglorious achievement will long be remembered for talking big but delivering very little on disability support.

The release last week of the Gonski report adds another trophy to the bulging trophy cabinet of disability despair in SA

A copy of today’s article on this issue is attached from the Adelaide Advertiser.

Congratulations to Sam Paor, IDASA and Disability Speaks board member for her outstanding work

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/in-depth/disability-support-fails-grade/story-e6frebv-1226283357667>

As new Premier Jay Weatherill works on the Governments May budget financial response to the Social Inclusion Board, Strong Voices/ Cappelletti report, requiring an injection of funding into disability services of between \$250 and \$400 million dollars over the next four years the realization that additional funding will be necessary for Education will be a sobering reminder of just how badly the disability support levels really are in SA. Such funding would still only deliver a Holden Commodore standard of services, not a Mercedes Benz.

Disability Speaks is confident education Minister Grace Portolesi shares this awareness. Grace has genuine empathy for people with disability.

The failure of Mr Weatherill’s Federal left faction colleague Prime Minister Julia Gillard to deliver any crisis funding under her mooted NDIS plan will only add to the SA Premiers level of angst. He knows the disability crisis is real and not imagined. Reports like Strong Voices and Gonski are exposing SA as the disability funding basket case it really is.

Fortunately we believe Mr Weatherill is serious in his expressed intention to tackle the crisis seriously.

David Holst

Chair - Disability Speaks Steering Committee & Intellectual Disability Association of S.A (IDASA)

Mob. 0418 555 683

Web. www.disabilityspeaks.com.au

Email. disabilityspeaks@internode.on.net



Disability Speaks is run by the Intellectual Disability Association of South Australia (IDASA) and will distribute on behalf of any organization that meets suitable criteria online information that is of wide disability community interest via our database that now numbers nearly 4,000 recipients for Government, advocacy groups and other major disability organizations. We aim in the lead up to elections, state or federal, we can distribute policy and support information from political groups. Such distribution is not in any way endorsement by Disability Speaks. From time to time Disability Speaks will also distribute media releases commenting on developments in the disability sector. We strongly encourage you to forward all releases to your friends, clients and disability supporters and encourage them to subscribe direct. To do so simply send an email with the subject "subscribe" to the address below, to unsubscribe please use "unsubscribe" in the subject line instead.