

certain terms; and generally relating to certain spinal cord injury research.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Article — Courts and Judicial Proceedings~~

~~Section 7-302~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(1998 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)~~

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Health – General

Section 1-101(a), (c), and (i)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Health – General

Section 13-1001 through 13-1007, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle
“Subtitle 10. State Board of Spinal Cord Injury Research”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Insurance

Section 6-103.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1997 Volume and 1999 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Each year some 10,000 Americans sustain spinal cord injuries which typically result in some degree of paralysis; and

~~WHEREAS, The major cause of spinal cord injuries is motor vehicle crashes and 58 percent of the victims of these injuries are young people between 16 and 30 years of age; and~~

WHEREAS, It has long been generally assumed that most persons who sustain a spinal cord injury can be rehabilitated to some extent, but that damage to neural tissue is irreversible; and

WHEREAS, The conventional wisdom concerning the successful treatment of spinal cord injuries has changed dramatically in light of research in Great Britain, Sweden, and the United States which demonstrates that there are no fundamental biological barriers to repairing damaged spinal cord neural tissue and that the possibility of effective regenerative therapies for human neural cell injury is no longer speculation but a realistic goal; and