

WHEREAS, There is more hope today than ever before that persons whose lives have been devastated by spinal cord injury can see their injuries reversed to some extent; and

WHEREAS, Most funding concerning spinal cord injury traditionally has been for rehabilitation research rather than research for basic neurological tissue regeneration with the objective of finding a cure for spinal cord injury; and

WHEREAS, Research concerning neurological tissue regeneration for spinal cord injury can be facilitated and enhanced by establishing an administrative unit at the State level with sufficient expertise, commitment, and funding to promote this type of research with a focus on finding a cure for spinal cord injury; and

~~WHEREAS, Because driving at an excessive speed is a common contributor to motor vehicle accidents, which in turn are the major cause of spinal cord injuries, it is appropriate that individuals who are convicted of speeding violations bear some of the cost of funding spinal cord injury cure research; now, therefore,~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

~~Article—Courts and Judicial Proceedings~~

~~7-302.~~

~~(a) Except as provided in subsections (b) through [(c)] (F) of this section, the clerks of the District Court shall:~~

- ~~(1) Collect costs, fines, forfeitures, or penalties imposed by the court; and~~
- ~~(2) Remit them to the State under a system agreed upon by the Chief Judge of the District Court and the Comptroller.~~

~~(b) If a parking or impounding fine, penalty, or forfeiture, or a fine, penalty, or forfeiture relating to violation of housing, building, fire, health, or sanitation codes, or a Mass Transit Fare Payment Statute, or a fine or penalty relating to failure to pay the prescribed toll at a highway or vehicular crossing is collected by the District Court pursuant to a local ordinance, law, or regulation of a political subdivision or municipality, or pursuant to a regulation of an agency of State government authorized to regulate parking of motor vehicles, or pursuant to a statute pertaining to the payment of mass transit fares, or pursuant to a statute pertaining to the failure to pay tolls, it shall be remitted to the respective local government, or to the State agency.~~

~~(c) Every agency of State government, political subdivision or municipality which has enacted or which shall enact an ordinance, law, or regulation controlling the parking of motor vehicles, or providing for the impounding of motor vehicles, or pertaining to the failure to pay tolls shall provide that fines, penalties or forfeitures for the violation of said ordinances, laws, or regulations shall be paid directly to the State agency, political subdivision or municipality, and not to the District Court, in uncontested cases.~~