



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

201 W. Preston Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D., Secretary

November 10, 2014

The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President of the Senate
H-107 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker of the House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: **HB 300/SB 287 (Chapters 513 and 512 of the Acts of 2000) and Health-General § 13-1405(a)(4) - 2014 Report of the State Board of Spinal Cord Injury Research**

Dear Governor O'Malley, President Miller, and Speaker Busch:

The State Board of Spinal Cord Injury Research (the Board) was established by House Bill 300 and Senate Bill 287 during the 2000 legislative session to administer a Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund (Health-General Article, §§13-1401—1407). The Board is charged with awarding research grants aimed at restoring neurological function in individuals with spinal cord injuries. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene provides administrative support to the Board. Pursuant to this legislation, the Board is required to submit an annual report on its activities in administering the grant program, including the status of the monies in the Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund (the Fund) and the status of the spinal cord research projects that are funded by grants issued by the Board.

As a result of no funds being directed to the Fund in Fiscal Year 2014, no grant awards were made from the Fund and no research activities were conducted. Therefore, the Department reports there are no spinal cord research projects currently supported by the Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact Ms. Allison Taylor, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs at (410) 767-6481.

Sincerely,

Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D.
Secretary

cc: Laura Herrera Scott, Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Michelle Spencer, Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Donna Gugel, Deputy Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Donald Shell, Director, Cancer and Chronic Disease Bureau
Kristi Pier, Director, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
Allison Taylor, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs
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