

A bill for an act
relating to health; establishing a state spinal cord research commission and
a spinal cord research account; appropriating money; amending Minnesota
Statutes 2010, section 171.29, subdivision 2; proposing coding for new law in
Minnesota Statutes, chapter 144.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[144.6651] DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Scope.** For the purposes of sections 144.6651 to 144.6653, the
following terms have the meanings given:

(a) "Approved research project" means a peer-reviewed scientific research project,
which is approved by the commission and that focuses on the treatment and cure of spinal
cord injuries and diseases that damage the spinal cord.

(b) "Commission" means the Minnesota Spinal Cord Research Commission
established under section 144.6652.

(c) "Institutional support services" means all services, facilities, equipment,
personnel, and expenditures associated with the creation and maintenance of approved
research projects.

(d) "Qualifying research institution" means the University of Minnesota Medical
School and any other research institution in the state approved by the commission.

Sec. 2. **[144.6652] MINNESOTA SPINAL CORD RESEARCH COMMISSION.**

Subdivision 1. **Establishment and duties.** The commissioner must establish a
Minnesota Spinal Cord Research Commission to perform the following duties:

(1) review and authorize approved research projects, for which purpose the
commission may establish an independent scientific advisory panel composed of scientists

and clinicians who are not members of the commission to review proposals submitted to the commission and make funding recommendations to the commission;

(2) provide grants of all available funds to qualifying research institutions to finance approved research projects and necessary institutional support services;

(3) ensure that grant funds are not diverted to any other use;

(4) encourage the development of spinal cord research projects within the state;

(5) design a fair and equitable system for the solicitation, evaluation, and approval of proposals for spinal cord research projects;

(6) apply for and accept any grants from the federal government which may be available for programs relating to research on the spinal cord;

(7) compile a directory of all spinal cord research projects being conducted in the state; and

(8) provide a report to the legislature by January 30 of each year describing the status of the commission's activities and the results of its funded research efforts.

Subd. 2. **Membership.** The commission shall consist of 11 members, including the following:

(a) one representative appointed by each of the commissioners of health and human services to serve as ex officio members;

(b) one representative appointed by the University of Minnesota Medical School;

(c) one representative appointed by the federally designated Spinal Cord Injury Model System;

(d) one representative appointed by the American Paralysis Association; and

(e) six public members appointed by the governor who are residents of the state knowledgeable about spinal cord injuries and who include at least one physician licensed in this state and at least one person with a spinal cord injury.

Sec. 3. [144.6653] SPINAL CORD RESEARCH ACCOUNT.

(a) A spinal cord research account is created in the general fund. Money in this account must be used, as appropriated by law, to fund grants issued by the Minnesota Spinal Cord Research Commission. This account shall be the repository for money provided pursuant to section 171.29, subdivision 2, paragraph (d). Funds deposited in the account, and any interest earned thereon, shall be used exclusively for the purpose of making grants for approved spinal cord research projects at qualified research institutions as determined by the commission pursuant to section 144.6652.

(b) Any costs incurred by the commissioner in the collection or administration of this account may be deducted from the funds deposited therein, as determined by the commissioner of management and budget.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 171.29, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Reinstatement fees and surcharges allocated and appropriated.** (a) An individual whose driver's license has been revoked as provided in subdivision 1, except under section 169A.52, 169A.54, or 609.21, must pay a \$30 fee before the driver's license is reinstated.

(b) A person whose driver's license has been revoked as provided in subdivision 1 under section 169A.52, 169A.54, or 609.21, must pay a \$250 fee plus a \$430 surcharge before the driver's license is reinstated, except as provided in paragraph ~~(f)~~ (g). The \$250 fee is to be credited as follows:

(1) Twenty percent must be credited to the driver services operating account in the special revenue fund as specified in section 299A.705.

(2) Sixty-seven percent must be credited to the general fund.

(3) Eight percent must be credited to a separate account to be known as the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension account. Money in this account is annually appropriated to the commissioner of public safety and the appropriated amount must be apportioned 80 percent for laboratory costs and 20 percent for carrying out the provisions of section 299C.065.

(4) Five percent must be credited to a separate account to be known as the vehicle forfeiture account, which is created in the special revenue fund. The money in the account is annually appropriated to the commissioner for costs of handling vehicle forfeitures.

(c) The revenue from \$50 of the surcharge must be credited to a separate account to be known as the traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury account. The revenue from \$50 of the surcharge on a reinstatement under paragraph ~~(f)~~ (g) is credited from the first installment payment to the traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury account. The money in the account is annually appropriated to the commissioner of health to be used as follows: 83 percent for contracts with a qualified community-based organization to provide information, resources, and support to assist persons with traumatic brain injury and their families to access services, and 17 percent to maintain the traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury registry created in section 144.662. For the purposes of this paragraph, a "qualified community-based organization" is a private, not-for-profit organization of consumers of traumatic brain injury services and their family members. The organization must be registered with the United States Internal Revenue Service under section 501(c)(3) as a tax-exempt organization and must have as its purposes:

(1) the promotion of public, family, survivor, and professional awareness of the incidence and consequences of traumatic brain injury;

(2) the provision of a network of support for persons with traumatic brain injury, their families, and friends;

(3) the development and support of programs and services to prevent traumatic brain injury;

(4) the establishment of education programs for persons with traumatic brain injury; and

(5) the empowerment of persons with traumatic brain injury through participation in its governance.

A patient's name, identifying information, or identifiable medical data must not be disclosed to the organization without the informed voluntary written consent of the patient or patient's guardian or, if the patient is a minor, of the parent or guardian of the patient.

(d) The revenue from \$25 of the surcharge must be credited to the spinal cord research account established under section 144.6653. The revenue from \$25 of the surcharge on a reinstatement under paragraph (g) is credited from the first installment payment to the spinal cord research account. The money in the account is annually appropriated to the commissioner of health to be used as provided in section 144.6653.

~~(d)~~ (e) The remainder of the surcharge must be credited to a separate account to be known as the remote electronic alcohol-monitoring program account. The commissioner shall transfer the balance of this account to the commissioner of management and budget on a monthly basis for deposit in the general fund.

~~(e)~~ (f) When these fees are collected by a licensing agent, appointed under section 171.061, a handling charge is imposed in the amount specified under section 171.061, subdivision 4. The reinstatement fees and surcharge must be deposited in an approved depository as directed under section 171.061, subdivision 4.

~~(f)~~ (g) A person whose driver's license has been revoked as provided in subdivision 1 under section 169A.52 or 169A.54 and who the court certifies as being financially eligible for a public defender under section 611.17, may choose to pay 50 percent and an additional \$25 of the total amount of the surcharge and 50 percent of the fee required under paragraph (b) to reinstate the person's driver's license, provided the person meets all other requirements of reinstatement. If a person chooses to pay 50 percent of the total and an additional \$25, the driver's license must expire after two years. The person must pay an additional 50 percent less \$25 of the total to extend the license for an additional two years, provided the person is otherwise still eligible for the license. After this final payment of the surcharge and fee, the license may be renewed on a standard schedule, as provided

H.F. No. 1690, as introduced - 87th Legislative Session (2011-2012) [11-3353]

5.1 under section 171.27. A handling charge may be imposed for each installment payment.
5.2 Revenue from the handling charge is credited to the driver services operating account in
5.3 the special revenue fund and is appropriated to the commissioner.

5.4 ~~(g)~~ (h) Any person making installment payments under paragraph ~~(f)~~ (g), whose
5.5 driver's license subsequently expires, or is canceled, revoked, or suspended before
5.6 payment of 100 percent of the surcharge and fee, must pay the outstanding balance due
5.7 for the initial reinstatement before the driver's license is subsequently reinstated. Upon
5.8 payment of the outstanding balance due for the initial reinstatement, the person may
5.9 pay any new surcharge and fee imposed under paragraph (b) in installment payments as
5.10 provided under paragraph ~~(f)~~ (g).