

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1633 Session of 2011

INTRODUCED BY MAJOR, BAKER, BOBACK, BRADFORD, CALTAGIRONE,  
COHEN, CREIGHTON, DeLUCA, DONATUCCI, EVERETT, GEIST,  
GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, HORNAMAN, KAUFFMAN,  
M. K. KELLER, KILLION, KULA, LONGIETTI, MILLARD, MILLER,  
MURT, PICKETT, REICHLEY, SCHRODER, SWANGER, TAYLOR, VEREB,  
VULAKOVICH, WATSON AND QUINN, JUNE 7, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, JUNE 7, 2011

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), entitled "An  
2 act relating to tax reform and State taxation by codifying  
3 and enumerating certain subjects of taxation and imposing  
4 taxes thereon; providing procedures for the payment,  
5 collection, administration and enforcement thereof; providing  
6 for tax credits in certain cases; conferring powers and  
7 imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, certain  
8 employers, fiduciaries, individuals, persons, corporations  
9 and other entities; prescribing crimes, offenses and  
10 penalties," in personal income tax, establishing and  
11 providing for contributions to the Spinal Cord Research Fund.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. The act of March 4, 1971 (P.L.6, No.2), known as  
15 the Tax Reform Code of 1971, is amended by adding a section to  
16 read:

17 Section 315.10. Contributions to Spinal Cord Injury  
18 Research.--(a) The department shall provide a space on the  
19 Pennsylvania individual income tax return form whereby an  
20 individual may voluntarily designate a contribution of any

1 amount desired to be utilized for spinal cord injury research.

2 (b) The amount so designated on the individual income tax  
3 return form shall be deducted from the tax refund to which the  
4 individual is entitled and shall not constitute a charge against  
5 the income tax revenues due to the Commonwealth.

6 (c) The department shall determine annually the total amount  
7 designated under this section, less reasonable administrative  
8 costs, and shall report the amount to the State Treasurer, who  
9 shall transfer the amount from the General Fund to the Spinal  
10 Cord Research Fund, which is established as a special fund in  
11 the State Treasury. All money so deposited shall be used solely  
12 for spinal cord research. Grants from the fund shall be made by  
13 the Secretary of Health.

14 (d) The department shall provide adequate information  
15 concerning the checkoff for spinal cord injury research in its  
16 instructions which accompany State income tax return forms. The  
17 information concerning the checkoff shall include the listing of  
18 an address furnished by the Department of Health to which  
19 contributions may be sent by taxpayers wishing to contribute to  
20 this effort but who do not receive refunds. Additionally, the  
21 Department of Health shall be charged with the duty to conduct a  
22 public information campaign on the availability of the checkoff  
23 and grant opportunities to Pennsylvania taxpayers.

24 (e) The Department of Health shall report annually to the  
25 respective committees of the Senate and the House of  
26 Representatives which have jurisdiction over health matters on  
27 the amount received via the checkoff plan and how the funds were  
28 utilized.

29 (f) The General Assembly may, from time to time, appropriate  
30 funds for spinal cord injury research.

1       Section 2.   This act shall take effect in 60 days.