1 A bill to be entitled An act relating to brain and spinal cord injury 2 rehabilitation; amending s. 318.21, F.S.; 3 revising the distribution of civil penalties 4 received by county courts; providing an 5 6 increased distribution to the Brain and Spinal 7 Cord Injury Rehabilitation Trust Fund; amending 8 s. 413.20, F.S.; redefining the term "traumatic 9 injury" with respect to general vocational 10 rehabilitation programs; amending s. 413.613, F.S.; including the University of South Florida 11 within a group of schools which may receive 12 13 funding from the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury 14 Rehabilitation Trust Fund; providing a limit on 15 annual funding; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (2) of section 318.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

318.21 Disposition of civil penalties by county courts.--All civil penalties received by a county court pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be distributed and paid monthly as follows:

- (2) Of the remainder:
- (a) <u>Fifteen</u> Twenty and six-tenths percent shall be paid to the General Revenue Fund of the state, except that the first \$300,000 shall be deposited into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services for administrative costs, training costs, and costs associated with the implementation and

maintenance of Florida foster care citizen review panels as provided for in s. 39.4531.

(d) <u>Thirteen</u> <u>Eight</u> and two-tenths percent shall be deposited in the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Trust Fund for the purposes set forth in s. 413.613.

Section 2. Subsection (33) of section 413.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

413.20 Definitions.--As used in this part, the term:

- (33) "Traumatic injury" means:
- (a) A lesion to the spinal cord or cauda equina resulting from external trauma with evidence of significant involvement of two of the following deficits or dysfunctions:
 - 1. Motor deficit.

- 2. Sensory deficit.
- 3. Bowel and bladder dysfunction; or

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 413.613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

413.613 Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Trust Fund.--

(3) Annually, 5 percent of the revenues deposited monthly in the fund pursuant to s. 318.21(2)(d) shall be appropriated to the University of Florida, and 5 percent to the University of Miami and 2 percent, not to exceed \$200,000 annually, to the University of South Florida for spinal cord injury and brain injury research. The amount to be distributed to the universities shall be calculated based on the deposits into the fund for each quarter in the fiscal year, but may not exceed \$500,000 per university per year. Funds distributed under this subsection shall be made in quarterly payments at the end of each quarter during the fiscal year.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law. HOUSE SUMMARY Increases the percentage amount deposited in the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Trust Fund from civil penalties received by county courts. Redefines the term "traumatic injury" with respect to general vocational rehabilitation programs to include a lesion to the spinal cord or brain resulting from described external trauma. Includes the University of South Florida in a group of schools which may receive funds from the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation Trust Fund for spinal cord injury and brain injury research. Limits such funding to no more than \$200,000 annually and removes a limitation on the amount of such funding to other schools on the list. See bill for details.