

SB 323 -- UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANKS

SPONSOR: Bartle (Cooper, 155)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill establishes the eligibility criteria for awarding grants to umbilical cord blood banks. Recipients of the grants must agree to operate and maintain an umbilical cord blood bank in the state until at least the eighth anniversary of the award of the grant; to gather and preserve umbilical cord blood only from live births; and to comply with financial reporting requirements. The grants are awarded subject to funds specifically appropriated.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008. Estimated Effect on Other State Funds of an Income of \$0 in FY 2006, a Cost of Unknown in FY 2007, and a Cost of Unknown in FY 2008. Funds are subject to appropriations and could exceed \$100,000.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows the Life Science Research Board to establish a program to award grants for the establishment of umbilical cord blood banks.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Cooper (155); and Missouri Right to Life.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Amy Woods, Senior Legislative Analyst