

HCS SB 971 -- CORD BLOOD BANKING

SPONSOR: Lembke (Davis)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute requires the Director of the Department of Health and Senior Services to post on its web site resources relating to umbilical cord blood that have been developed by the Parent's Guide to Cord Blood Foundation or a successor organization which includes an explanation of the potential value and uses of umbilical cord blood, including cord blood cells and stem cells; the differences between using one's own blood cord cells and using related or unrelated cord blood stem cells in the treatment of disease; the differences between public and private blood banking; various options for donating, storing, or discarding cord blood; and other specified subjects. Beginning October 1, 2010, every licensed physician who provides obstetrical or gynecological care to a pregnant woman must make available to the patient prior to the beginning of her third trimester or, if later, at her first visit the information posted on the department's web site regarding umbilical cord blood banking.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill provides educational information to pregnant women on public and private options regarding cord blood banking as well as to the public and physicians.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Lembke; Missouri Baptist Convention, Christian Life Commission; Missouri Family Network; Missouri Catholic Conference; and Campaign Life Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.