

HCS HB 1193 -- CORD BLOOD COLLECTION

SPONSOR: Roorda

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

Beginning July 1, 2015, this bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to transport collected, donated umbilical cord blood samples to a nonprofit umbilical cord blood bank located in St. Louis City in existence as of the effective date of the bill. The collection sites must only be those facilities designated and trained by the blood bank in the collection and handling of umbilical cord blood specimens.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that cord blood is extremely important in bone marrow transplantations. This bill develops infrastructure to save lives in Missouri currently and in the future so action needs to be taken quickly. Supporters say the fiscal impact is nothing compared to the number of lives that could be saved. There is no established medical use of a person's own cord blood in treatment of a medical condition from which he or she is suffering, therefore having a large bank is necessary and very beneficial.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Roorda; Dr. Aleksandar Babic, St. Louis Cord Blood Bank; Donna Regan, St. Louis Cord Blood Bank; Campaign Life Missouri; Missouri Family Network; Americans United for Life; Missouri Catholic Conference; and Missouri Right to Life.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say they are working to decrease the fiscal note.

Testifying on the bill was the Department of Health and Senior Services.