

Sixtieth  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1232

Introduced by

Representatives Delmore, Hawken, S. Meyer, Pietsch

Senators Bakke, Krebsbach

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for umbilical cord blood donation.

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

3 **SECTION 1. Umbilical cord blood donation.**

- 4 1. Unless it is medically inadvisable, a hospital shall allow a pregnant patient to  
5 arrange for the blood extracted from the umbilical cord of the patient's newborn  
6 child to be donated to a public cord blood bank. A patient who agrees to donate  
7 cord blood to a public cord blood bank may not be charged for the costs of  
8 collecting, storing, or transporting the cord blood.
- 9 2. A hospital is not required to collect cord blood if in the professional judgment of a  
10 licensed physician the collection of the cord blood would threaten the health of the  
11 mother or newborn child. This section does not require a hospital or hospital  
12 employee, including a physician, nurse, or other medical staff, to collect cord blood  
13 if the collection of cord blood conflicts with the bona fide religious practices and  
14 beliefs of the hospital or hospital employee. This section does not require a  
15 hospital to arrange for the donation of blood extracted from umbilical cords.
- 16 3. The state department of health, in consultation with obstetricians, the North Dakota  
17 healthcare association, and interested groups, shall develop educational materials  
18 concerning the values of, uses of, and procedure for donation of umbilical cord  
19 blood. Each obstetrician and hospital that provides obstetrical services shall  
20 distribute to pregnant patients the educational materials developed under this  
21 subsection.