

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.