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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Greg Waddell.

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## DIGEST

Present law provides that subject to an appropriation from the legislature DHH shall establish the Umbilical Cord Blood Banking Program to promote public awareness, and research, and to facilitate arrangements for banking of cord blood donations.

Proposed law retains present law but removes provisions requiring legislative appropriation.

Proposed law defines "health care provider" as a person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized by law to provide or render health care services to pregnant women in the state of Louisiana in the ordinary course of business or scope of profession but is limited to a physician, certified nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, and licensed midwife.

Proposed law further provides that all health care providers providing healthcare services to a pregnant patient to advise her of options to donate umbilical cord blood following the delivery of a newborn child, by providing standardized objective information that is sufficient to allow a pregnant patient to make an informed decision on whether to participate in a public or private umbilical cord blood banking program by the end of the second trimester or twenty-eighth week of pregnancy.

Proposed law provides that provision in a timely manner of publications prepared by the Department of Health and Hospitals pursuant to R.S. 46:2882(B)(2) shall constitute compliance with proposed law.

Proposed law provides that nothing in proposed law shall impose an obligation upon a health care provider to permit an umbilical cord blood donation if the donation conflicts with bona fide religious beliefs of the health care provider. If a health care provider declines to engage in umbilical cord blood donation, that fact shall be made known to the pregnant patient as soon as reasonably feasible.

Effective August 15, 2009.

(Amends R.S. 46:2882(C); adds R.S. 46:2883)