AN ACT

To enact Chapter 62 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 46:2881 and 2882, relative to the Umbilical Cord Blood Banking Program;

to provide for a short title; to establish the program within the Department of Health and Hospitals; to provide for the duties of the department; to provide for funding;

and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 62 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 46:2881 and 2882, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 62. UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD BANKING

§2881. Short title

This Chapter shall be known and may be cited as "The Umbilical Cord Blood Banking Program Act".

§2882. Umbilical Cord Blood Banking Program; establishment; duties of the Department of Health and Hospitals; funding

A. The Umbilical Cord Blood Banking Program is hereby established within the Department of Health and Hospitals to promote public awareness of the potential benefits of cord blood banking, to promote research into the uses of cord blood, and to facilitate predelivery arrangements for banking of cord blood donations.
B. The department shall:

(1) Develop a public education and outreach campaign via written materials, brochures, the Internet, and public service announcements to promote cord blood banking awareness and the benefits of cord blood banking.

(2) Develop educational materials and brochures which shall be made available to the general public and potential cord blood donors through parish health units, health care practitioners, including obstetricians, gynecologists, and pediatricians, health maintenance organizations, hospitals, walk-in medical centers, mobile care units, surgical centers, urgent care centers, and clinics and organizations serving pregnant women.

(3) Coordinate and promote professional education programs for health care providers on the benefits of cord blood banking.

(4) Establish a statewide toll-free telephone number to receive requests for information and to direct potential cord blood donors to available cord blood banks serving the area in which a potential donor resides.

(5) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Chapter in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

C. The department shall accept and expend any grants, awards, or other funds as may be made available for the purposes of this Section. Subject to an appropriation from the legislature, the department shall implement the provisions of this Section.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ____________________

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.