

1 AN ACT in relation to health.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Hospital Licensing Act is amended by  
5 adding Section 6.21 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 85/6.21 new)

7 Sec. 6.21. Umbilical cord blood donation.

8 (a) All licensed hospitals shall offer a pregnant  
9 patient the option to donate, to a publicly accessible  
10 certified cord blood bank, blood extracted from the umbilical  
11 cord following the delivery of a newborn child if the  
12 donation can be made at no expense to the patient or hospital  
13 for collection or storage.

14 (b) Nothing in this Section obligates a hospital to  
15 collect umbilical cord blood if, in the professional judgment  
16 of a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its  
17 branches or a nurse, the collection would threaten the health  
18 of the mother or child.

19 (c) Nothing in this Section imposes a requirement upon  
20 any hospital employee, physician, nurse, or hospital that is  
21 directly affiliated with a bona fide religious denomination  
22 that includes as an integral part of its beliefs and  
23 practices the tenet that blood transfer is contrary to the  
24 moral principles the denomination considers to be an  
25 essential part of its beliefs.