

2007 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 583

Offered January 10, 2007

Prefiled December 18, 2006

Encouraging the Department of Health to continue to seek federal funding and support from the Virginia Congressional Delegation for the Cord Blood Bank Initiative.

Patron—Marshall, R.G.

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, HB 413 and SB 370 were passed last year establishing the Virginia Cord Blood Bank Initiative as a public resource for Virginians for the treatment of patients with certain life-threatening illnesses or debilitating conditions, for use in advancing basic and clinical research, and, in the event of a terrorist attack, for use in the treatment of the injured citizens of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Subcommittee Studying Medical, Ethical, and Scientific Issues Relating to Stem Cell Research Conducted in the Commonwealth has been monitoring the progress of the Initiative during the 2006 interim; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health is currently in the process of convening a consortium of experts from medical schools, hospitals, biotechnology companies, regional blood banks, laboratories, and others to help develop the Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the cost of collecting, processing, and storing umbilical cord blood can be as high as \$2,000 for a single unit; and

WHEREAS, there are new federal grants available through the Department of Homeland Security, the National Marrow Donor Program, and others, to help states develop projects such as this; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Department of Health be encouraged to seek federal funding and support from the Virginia Congressional Delegation for the Virginia Cord Blood Bank Initiative; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit a copy of this resolution to the State Health Commissioner and the Department of Health, requesting that the Commissioner further disseminate copies of this resolution to their respective constituents so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

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