

Dear Assembly Member,

I urge you to pass Assembly Bill A1642, which would provide funding to sustain Community Blood Services' New Jersey Cord Blood Bank (NJCBB). The NJCBB is the only public cord blood bank in the State of New Jersey where expectant parents can donate their newborns' umbilical cord blood to be used to treat critically ill patients not only in New Jersey but worldwide. .

The NJCBB collects, processes, and stores donated umbilical cord blood. The cord blood contains non-controversial adult stem cells used to treat more than 90 life-threatening diseases, including cancers, leukemia, strong anemia, and many genetic disorders.

Bill A1642 would provide funding to the NJCBB by collecting a \$5 fee for each certified copy of a birth certificate issued in New Jersey. The \$5 fee will be deposited into a non-lapsing revolving fund to be known as the New Jersey Public Cord Blood Bank Fund and used to support the state –designated public cord blood bank in collecting, processing, and storing cord blood for public use.

Funding is a necessity to keep this lifesaving program alive. Passage of this legislation will determine New Jersey's future success in public cord blood banking.

I strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on A1642 and help the NJCBB to save more lives.

Respectfully,

Signature

Name

Town