

Sidley Austin's Quarterly Report to the Cord Blood Association September 2024

Congressional Activities

Update on Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Appropriations Legislation

- Currently, Congress is considering the FY 2025 appropriations legislation that funds public health programs. Both the House and Senate FY 2025 Labor-Health and Human Services Appropriations bills included funding for the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI) and the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program. While funding for many federal programs was reduced in the FY 2025 appropriations bills, the funding levels for both NCBI and the C.W. Bill Young Transplantation Program were not cut. The fact that these programs were not reduced demonstrates the strong congressional support that both programs continue to have on Capitol Hill.
 - *National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI)--The House and Senate Labor-HHS bills include \$19,266,000 for the NCBI, the same as the fiscal year 2024 enacted level. The NCBI program supports cord blood banks to build a genetically diverse inventory of the highest quality cord blood units for transplantation.*
 - *C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation--The House and Senate Labor-HHS bills include \$33,009,000 for the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation program, the same as the fiscal year 2024 enacted level. This program supports coordinating the procurement of bone marrow and umbilical cord blood units for transplantation.*

Currently, neither the House nor the Senate has passed the FY 2025 Labor-HHS Appropriations legislation. A short-term continuing resolution (CR) is expected to pass before the September 30, 2024, funding deadline.

The Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2024 ([P.L. 118-63](#))

- The Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2024 was signed into law on May 16, 2024. The new law directs the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the FAA Administrator, to convene a working group to assist in developing best practices for transportation of organs and blood stem cell products in the cabins of commercial aircrafts. CBA officers Joanne Kurtzberg and Marcie Finney will participate as members of this working group.

H.R. 8882, the Family Cord Blood Banking Act

- The Family Cord Blood Banking Act was introduced in the House of Representatives on June 28, 2024, by Reps. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Jimmy Panetta (D-CA). This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat payments for private umbilical

cord blood, or umbilical cord tissue banking services as medical care expenses. Both sponsors serve on the House Ways & Means Committee which has jurisdiction over the Internal Revenue Code. This bill has been referred to the House Ways & Means Committee and both Reps. Arrington and Panetta serve on this committee. Rep. Arrington is also the Chairman of the House Budget Committee. The bill [text](#) is here and attached.