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110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1892

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Amniotic and Placental Stem Cell Bank.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2007

Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. SHULER, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. MELANCON, and Mr. DONNELLY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Amniotic and Placental Stem Cell Bank.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''National Amniotic and Placental Stem Cell Bank Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) Research published on January 7, 2007, in ''Nature Biotechnology'' has demonstrated the feasi-

bility of using amniotic and placental stem cells for clinical applications. Stem cells, obtained from the amniotic fluid in routine prenatal testing or from placental tissue, are able to grow into liver, muscle, nerve, and other tissues that could be used to treat a variety of diseases.

(2) Amniotic fluid and placenta contain stem cells that can be collected without risk to the donor, preserved through freezing for many years, and made available for research and treatment.

(3) Amniotic and placental stem cells can be directed into all three germ layers.

(4) Unlike the findings of current embryonic stem cell research, amniotic and placental stem cells do not form tumors, and can be collected without damaging embryos.

(5) Amniotic and placental stem cells can grow into a variety of cell types and multiply rapidly, can be preserved for self-use, do not form tumors, and can be banked for a population at large.

(6) An inventory of 100,000 amniotic and placental stem cell units would provide enough cells of sufficient genetic diversity to provide 99 percent of the United States population with a perfect genetic match for transplantation. With over 4 million births

each year in the United States, a stem cell bank of this size would not take long to collect.

(7) Recent scientific developments suggest that further research on amniotic and placental stem cells may lead to a greater understanding of certain chronic diseases and birth defects. This research might improve therapies for, and possibly cure, debilitating diseases such as Parkinson's disease, insulin-dependent diabetes, heart disease, and cancer. These diseases cause a disproportionately large share of chronic disabilities and account for a large portion of health care expenditures in the United States.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL AMNIOTIC AND PLACENTAL STEM CELL BANK.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"PART S—NATIONAL AMNIOTIC AND PLACENTAL STEM CELL BANK

"SEC. 399FF. NATIONAL AMNIOTIC AND PLACENTAL STEM CELL BANK.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Amniotic and Placental Stem Cell Bank (in this section

referred to as the 'Bank') for the purpose of obtaining, storing, and making available for research and treatment, human stem cells derived from amniotic fluid or placenta.

''(b) GENETIC DIVERSITY.—For the purpose of ensuring genetic diversity, the Bank shall maintain a collection of not fewer than 100,000 samples of human stem cells derived from amniotic fluid or placenta.

''(c) INFORMED CONSENT.—The Bank may obtain a stem cell only if the woman providing the amniotic fluid or placenta makes a written statement of informed consent.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated $60,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.''.

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