July 6, 2005

Congressman Akin Visits St. Louis Cord Blood Bank

St. Louis - Congressman Todd Akin (R-MO), a member of the House Science Committee, toured the St. Louis Cord Blood Bank at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital. The Cord Blood Bank collects umbilical cord blood for the purposes of non-embryonic stem cell research. The Cardinal Glennon program is the second largest of its type in the nation.

Congressman Akin toured the facility with its director Donna Regan and Medical Director Dr. Michael Greer.

"It is encouraging to see that Cardinal Glennon is working to advance stem cell research which does not necessitate the destruction of a human embryo," Akin said. "Stem cell research, which uses umbilical cord blood has shown vastly more promise than embryonic stem cell research without the ethical problem of creating a life in order to destroy it."

Congressman Todd Akin is a cosponsor of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, which passed the House on May 24th.