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TRIBUTE TO STORK MEDICAL AND COMMUNITY BLOOD SERVICES

HON. LYNN WESTMORELAND
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, as the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces protect our freedom and liberty, it is my belief that the rest of us have a responsibility to show our support for their sacrifices in spirit and in deed. With this in mind, I acknowledge and thank Stork Medical and Community Blood Services in Columbus, GA, for their generous gift to our military.

Attempting to make cord blood stem cell storage affordable to all of our soldiers is praiseworthy. I share their hope, prayer and expectation that the cord blood stem cells saved from a soldier's newborn will one day serve to repair the wounds a soldier has sustained in battle. I know that these stem cells will immediately add a layer of

protection for a soldier's family given their proven ability to fight leukemia, cancer and many other diseases. It is indeed ironic that a soldier's helpless newborn may offer the ultimate protection of a soldier's family. This innovative and selfless program designed by Stork Medical and enthusiastically supported by Community Blood Services is a wonderful example of private enterprise sharing the burden of our troops and not spending a single tax dollar.

This innovative program offers our wounded heroes the hope of future medical miracles that may one day restore what was taken from them by bullets and bombs. It also offers peace of mind for young families that an added layer of protection is now available. Stork Medical's program in Georgia's third Congressional District is a shining example of how soldier and civilian alike can stand shoulder to shoulder in defense of our country.

