

HOUSE No. 2044

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul J. Donato

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the registration of podiatrists.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul J. Donato

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

35th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE REGISTRATION OF PODIATRISTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 112 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby
2 amended by striking out section 13 and inserting in place thereof the following new section:-

3 Section 13. Podiatry as used in this chapter shall mean the diagnosis and treatment of the
4 structures of the human foot and ankle by medical, mechanical, surgical, manipulative and electrical
5 means, including, but not limited to, the treatment of the local manifestation of systemic conditions as
6 they present in the foot and ankle, partial amputation of the foot, and tendon surgery in the foot and ankle,
7 including the Achilles tendon. The practice of podiatry shall not include the administration of a general
8 anesthetic or amputation of the entire foot. Ankle surgery involving bone, including, but not limited to
9 the fibula and tibia, must be performed in a hospital or surgical center and requires credentialing by that
10 facility and shall require either (a) board certification approved by the American Board of Podiatric
11 Surgery (ABPS); or (b) board certification as deemed appropriate by the Massachusetts Board of
12 Registration in Podiatry; or (c) supervision of a Podiatric physician (D.P.M.) who is board certified by the
13 ABPS who has ankle privileges, until competency is established to achieve credentialing by the facility;
14 or (d) supervision of a board certified Allopathic (M.D.) or Osteopathic (D.O.) physician who has ankle
15 privileges, until competency is established to achieve credentialing by the facility.

16 Nothing in this act should preclude registered podiatrists, who have board certification in foot surgery,
17 from performing procedures for which they have been credentialed by a hospital or surgical center to
18 perform prior to December 31st, 2007.

19 This section and sections fourteen to twenty-two, inclusive, shall not apply to surgeons of the United
20 States Army, Navy or the United States Public Health Service, nor to physicians registered in the

21 commonwealth. The term physician and surgeon when used in sections twelve B, twelve G, twenty-three
22 N, and eighty B shall include a podiatrist acting within the limitation imposed by this section.