

SB28 ENROLLED



1 YKE826-3
2 By Senator Melson
3 RFD: Healthcare
4 First Read: 07-Mar-23
5 PFD: 02-Mar-23
6 2023 Regular Session



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 Relating to podiatry; to amend Section 34-24-230, Code
4 of Alabama 1975; to expand the scope of the practice of
5 podiatry to include treatment of disorders of the foot and
6 ankle.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

8 Section 1. Section 34-24-230, Code of Alabama 1975, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§34-24-230

11 For purposes of this title, the following terms ~~shall~~
12 have the respective meanings ascribed by this section:

13 (1) ANKLE. Consists of the ankle joint which consists
14 of the distal third of the tibia and fibula and their
15 articulations with the talus and the soft tissue structures
16 surrounding the foot and ankle.

17 ~~(1)~~ (8) PODIATRY. The diagnosis and treatment of
18 disorders of the human foot and ankle, as described herein.

19 ~~(2)~~ (9) PRACTICE OF PODIATRY. The diagnosis and medical
20 or surgical or mechanical or manipulative or electrical
21 treatment of any ailment of the ~~human~~ foot or ankle ~~except~~
22 ~~such definition does not include the amputation of the foot or~~
23 ~~the administering of an anesthetic other than local~~ and the
24 surgical treatment of ailments of the human foot or ankle
25 limited anatomically to the foot or ankle. The practice of
26 podiatry shall include the amputation of the toes and other
27 parts of the foot and ankle, but shall not include any
28 amputation above the Chopart joint or total ankle arthroplasty



29 or the administration of any anesthetic other than local. A
30 podiatrist may prescribe drugs that relate specifically to the
31 scope of practice authorized herein.

32 (4) FOOT. The terminal appendage of the lower extremity
33 and contains 28 bones and is divided into three parts - the
34 forefoot, the midfoot, and the hindfoot. The forefoot consists
35 of 14 phalanges, five metatarsals, and the tibial and fibular
36 sesamoid bones. The midfoot consists of five tarsal bones and
37 their articulations. The hindfoot consists of two tarsal
38 bones, the calcaneus, and the talus. The foot is defined as
39 including all 28 complete bony structures below the ankle
40 joint.

41 (2) DIAGNOSIS. The process of ascertaining a disease or
42 ailment by its general symptoms.

43 ~~(4)~~ (7) MEDICAL TREATMENT. The application to or
44 prescription for the foot or ankle of pads, fiberglass,
45 adhesives, felt, plaster, or any medicinal agency for both
46 external and internal use in connection with treatment of
47 local ailments of the ~~human~~ foot or ankle, ~~except such~~
48 ~~definition.~~ The term does not include the medical treatment of
49 any systemic disease, but ~~does allow treating~~ includes
50 treatment for the local manifestations of those systemic
51 diseases in the foot or ankle.

52 ~~(5)~~ (10) SURGICAL TREATMENT. The use of any cutting
53 instrument to treat a disease, ailment, or condition of the
54 ~~human~~ foot or ankle ~~as defined herein, except that a~~
55 ~~podiatrist shall not be authorized to amputate the human foot,~~
56 ~~or perform any surgery on the human body at or above the ankle~~



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57 ~~joint, or administer anesthetics other than local anesthetics.~~

58 (6) MECHANICAL TREATMENT. The application of any
59 mechanical appliance made of steel, leather, felt, or any
60 material to the foot or ankle or in the shoe for the purpose
61 of treating any disease, deformity, or ailment.

62 ~~(7)~~ (5) MANIPULATIVE TREATMENT. The use of the hand or
63 machinery in the operation or working upon the foot ~~and~~ or
64 ankle ~~its articulations.~~

65 ~~(8)~~ (3) ELECTRICAL TREATMENT. Any treatment by means and
66 methods supplied by electric current.

67 ~~(9) HUMAN FOOT. The terminal appendage of the lower~~
68 ~~extremity. It contains 26 bones and is divided into three~~
69 ~~parts - the forefoot, the midfoot, and the hindfoot. The~~
70 ~~forefoot consists of 14 phalanges and five metatarsals. The~~
71 ~~midfoot consists of five tarsal bones and their articulations.~~
72 ~~The hindfoot consists of two tarsal bones, the calcaneus and~~
73 ~~the talus. The foot is defined as including all 26 complete~~
74 ~~boney structures below the ankle joint, which ankle joint~~
75 ~~consists of the distal tibia and fibula and their~~
76 ~~articulations with the talus. The distal aspect of the tibia~~
77 ~~and fibula, the achilles tendon, and all structures above the~~
78 ~~dome of the talus reside within the leg."~~

79 Section 2. A podiatrist may not surgically treat
80 osseous ailments of the ankle unless he or she has completed
81 at least 36 months of post-graduate residency training
82 approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Educations of the
83 American Podiatric Medical Association.

84 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the first



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85 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
86 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Senate 05-Apr-23

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed
the Senate, as amended.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 25-Apr-23

By: Senator Melson