

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to podiatric medicine; amending s.
 3 461.003, F.S.; redefining the term "practice of podiatric
 4 medicine"; creating s. 461.0145, F.S.; prohibiting a
 5 licensed podiatric physician from performing ankle surgery
 6 unless he or she meets certain requirements for education
 7 and training; providing a period during which a licensed
 8 podiatric physician must meet the eligibility requirements
 9 in order to perform ankle surgery; providing accreditation
 10 requirements for the hospital or ambulatory surgical
 11 center at which ankle surgery is performed; authorizing a
 12 licensed podiatric physician to perform nonsurgical care
 13 without meeting certain requirements; prohibiting a
 14 licensed podiatric physician from performing surgery on
 15 certain fractures; providing an effective date.

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 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 19 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 461.003, Florida
 20 Statutes, is amended to read:

21 461.003 Definitions.--As used in this chapter:

22 (5) "Practice of podiatric medicine" means the diagnosis
 23 or medical, surgical, palliative, and mechanical treatment of
 24 ailments of the human foot and leg, ~~The surgical treatment of~~
 25 ~~ailments of the human foot and leg shall be limited anatomically~~
 26 to that part below the anterior tibial tubercle. The practice of
 27 podiatric medicine includes ~~shall include~~ the amputation of the
 28 toes or other parts of the foot but does ~~shall~~ not include the

29 amputation of the foot or leg in its entirety. A podiatric
 30 physician may prescribe drugs that relate specifically to the
 31 scope of practice authorized herein.

32 Section 2. Section 461.0145, Florida Statutes, is created
 33 to read:

34 461.0145 Surgery.--

35 (1) A licensed podiatric physician may not perform ankle
 36 surgery unless the podiatric physician meets one of the
 37 following requirements:

38 (a) On or before October 2, 1995, the licensed podiatric
 39 physician was credentialed to perform ankle surgery by a
 40 hospital or ambulatory surgical center that was accredited by
 41 the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare
 42 Organizations. Such podiatric physician shall:

43 1. Notify the board as to the hospital or ambulatory
 44 surgical center at which he or she was credentialed to perform
 45 ankle surgery on or before October 2, 1995;

46 2. Complete, and maintain evidence of completing, at least
 47 10 hours of board-approved continuing education related to ankle
 48 surgery annually; and

49 3. Comply with any other requirements established by the
 50 board to ensure continued proficiency in performing ankle
 51 surgery; or

52 (b) The licensed podiatric physician has completed a
 53 surgical residency program of at least 36 months in length which
 54 has been approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education
 55 and is currently eligible for certification to perform
 56 reconstructive rearfoot or ankle surgery by the American Board

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57 of Podiatric Surgery. A podiatric physician who qualifies to
58 perform ankle surgery under this paragraph shall obtain
59 certification to perform reconstructive rearfoot or ankle
60 surgery from the American Board of Podiatric Surgery by July 1,
61 2014, or within 6 years after first becoming eligible for
62 certification, whichever date is later. A licensed podiatric
63 physician may not continue to perform ankle surgery if he or she
64 has not obtained certification by the end of the 6-year period.

65 (2) A licensed podiatric physician may perform ankle
66 surgery only in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center that is
67 accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of
68 Healthcare Organizations at which the podiatric physician has
69 surgical privileges to perform ankle surgery. A podiatric
70 physician who performs ankle surgery in an ambulatory surgical
71 center must first have surgical privileges to perform ankle
72 surgery at a local hospital. A licensed podiatric physician who
73 performs ankle surgery must meet the same standard of care
74 applicable to an orthopedic surgeon who performs ankle surgery.

75 (3) A licensed podiatric physician may perform nonsurgical
76 care without meeting the requirements of subsection (1). A
77 licensed podiatric physician may also perform Achilles tendon
78 repair, subject to subsection (1), but may not perform surgery
79 on Pilon fractures or tibial fractures that do not enter the
80 ankle joint.

81 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.