



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 4546



Offered by:

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, 133rd Dist.

SEN. ANWAR, 3rd Dist.

REP. KLARIDES-DITRIA, 105th Dist.

SEN. SOMERS, 18th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5196

File No. 96

Cal. No. 92

"AN ACT EXPANDING THE PODIATRIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 20-54 of the general statutes is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
5 *1, 2024*):

6 (c) A licensed podiatrist may independently engage in the surgical
7 treatment of the ankle, including the surgical treatment of the
8 anatomical structures of the ankle, as well as the administration and
9 prescription of drugs incidental thereto, and the surgical treatment of
10 manifestations of systemic diseases as they appear on the ankle, after
11 the podiatrist provides documentation to the Department of Public
12 Health of the following: (1) (A) Graduation on or after June 1, 2006, from
13 a three-year residency program in podiatric medicine and surgery that

14 was accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education, or its
15 successor organization, at the time of graduation, and (B) current board
16 certification or qualification in reconstructive rearfoot ankle surgery by
17 the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery, or its successor
18 organization; or (2) (A) graduation prior to June 1, 2006, from a
19 residency program in podiatric medicine and surgery that was at least
20 two years in length and accredited at the time of graduation by said
21 council, and (B) current board certification or qualification in
22 reconstructive rearfoot ankle surgery by the American Board of Foot
23 and Ankle Surgery, or its successor organization. For purposes of this
24 section, "surgical treatment of the ankle" includes all soft tissue and
25 osseous procedures, including ankle fracture fixation, ankle fusion,
26 ankle arthroscopy, insertion or removal of external fixation pins into or
27 from the tibial diaphysis at or below the level of the myotendinous
28 junction of the triceps surae, [and] insertion and removal of retrograde
29 tibiototalcalcaneal intramedullary rods and locking screws up to the
30 level of the myotendinous junction of the triceps [surae] surae and
31 Chopart joint-level amputation, but does not include the surgical
32 treatment of complications within the tibial diaphysis related to the use
33 of external fixation pins, the performance of total ankle replacements or
34 the treatment of tibial pilon fractures.

35 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The cochairpersons of the
36 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
37 matters relating to public health shall convene a panel comprised of two
38 representatives each from an organization representing podiatrists in
39 the state and an organization representing orthopedic physicians in the
40 state to develop, not later than August 1, 2024, a protocol for permitting
41 licensed podiatrists who have provided documentation to the
42 Department of Public Health of meeting the requirements set forth in
43 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of section 20-54 of the general
44 statutes, as amended by this act, to perform total ankle replacement
45 surgery. The protocol shall consist of a description of the experience,
46 skill and training requirements for performance of such surgery and the
47 procedure for assessing whether a podiatrist has the requisite

48 experience, skill and training. Not later September 1, 2024, the panel
 49 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
 50 of the general statutes, regarding the panel's protocol to the joint
 51 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 52 matters relating to public health and the Commissioner of Public
 53 Health. Not later than October 1, 2024, the commissioner shall post such
 54 protocol on the Department of Public Health's Internet web site.

55 (b) On and after October 1, 2024, a licensed podiatrist who has
 56 provided documentation to the Department of Public Health of meeting
 57 the requirements set forth in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of
 58 section 20-54 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may apply
 59 to a hospital in the state for privileges to perform total ankle
 60 replacement surgery at such hospital. A hospital may utilize the
 61 protocol developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to assess
 62 whether a podiatrist has the requisite experience, skill and training to
 63 perform total ankle replacement surgery at such hospital.

64 (c) A podiatrist who has been approved by a hospital for privileges
 65 to perform total ankle replacement surgery pursuant to subsection (b)
 66 of this section may perform such surgery at such hospital.

67 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a hospital to
 68 grant a podiatrist privileges to perform total ankle replacement surgery
 69 at the hospital."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	20-54(c)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section