

SENATE No. 875

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand 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 is hereby amended by striking out Section
2 13 and inserting in place thereof the following 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
5 electrical means, the treatment of the local manifestation of systemic conditions as they present
6 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 administration of an
8 anesthetic, other than local, or amputation of the foot. Ankle surgery involving bone, including,
9 but not limited to the fibula and tibia, must be performed in a hospital or surgical center and
10 requires credentialing by that facility and shall require either (a) board certification approved by
11 the American Board of Podiatric Surgery (ABPS); or (b) board certification as deemed
12 appropriate by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Podiatry; or (c) supervision of a
13 Podiatric physician (D.P.M.) who is board certified by the ABPS who has ankle privileges, until
14 competency is established to achieve credentialing by the facility; or (d) supervision of a board

15 certified Allopathic (M.D.) or Osteopathic (D.O.) physician who has ankle privileges, until
16 competency is established to achieve credentialing by the facility.

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

20 This section and sections fourteen to twenty-two, inclusive, shall not apply to surgeons of
21 the United States army, navy or the United States Public Health Service, nor to physicians
22 registered in the Commonwealth. The term physician and surgeon when used in sections twelve
23 B, twelve G, twenty-three N, and eighty B shall include a podiatrist acting within the limitation
24 imposed by this section.