

SB28 ENGROSSED



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



SB28 Engrossed

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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

"§34-24-230

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

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

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

~~(2)~~ (9) PRACTICE OF PODIATRY. The diagnosis and medical or surgical or mechanical or manipulative or electrical treatment of any ailment of the ~~human~~ foot or ankle ~~except such definition does not include the amputation of the foot or~~



SB28 Engrossed

29 ~~the administering of an anesthetic other than local~~ and the
30 surgical treatment of ailments of the human foot or ankle
31 limited anatomically to the foot or ankle. The practice of
32 podiatry shall include the amputation of the toes and other
33 parts of the foot and ankle, but shall not include any
34 amputation above the Chopart joint or total ankle arthroplasty
35 or the administration of any anesthetic other than local. A
36 podiatrist may prescribe drugs that relate specifically to the
37 scope of practice authorized herein.

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

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

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



SB28 Engrossed

57 diseases in the foot or ankle.

58 ~~(5)~~ (10) SURGICAL TREATMENT. The use of any cutting
59 instrument to treat a disease, ailment, or condition of the
60 ~~human~~ foot or ankle ~~as defined herein, except that a~~
61 ~~podiatrist shall not be authorized to amputate the human foot,~~
62 ~~or perform any surgery on the human body at or above the ankle~~
63 ~~joint, or administer anesthetics other than local anesthetics.~~

64 (6) MECHANICAL TREATMENT. The application of any
65 mechanical appliance made of steel, leather, felt, or any
66 material to the foot or ankle or in the shoe for the purpose
67 of treating any disease, deformity, or ailment.

68 ~~(7)~~ (5) MANIPULATIVE TREATMENT. The use of the hand or
69 machinery in the operation or working upon the foot ~~and~~ or
70 ankle ~~its articulations.~~

71 ~~(8)~~ (3) ELECTRICAL TREATMENT. Any treatment by means and
72 methods supplied by electric current.

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



SB28 Engrossed

85 Section 2. A podiatrist may not surgically treat
86 osseous ailments of the ankle unless he or she has completed
87 at least 36 months of post-graduate residency training
88 approved by the Council on Podiatric Medical Educations of the
89 American Podiatric Medical Association.

90 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the first
91 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
92 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.



SB28 Engrossed

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95 Senate

96 Read for the first time and referred07-Mar-23
97 to the Senate committee on
98 Healthcare
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100 Read for the second time and placed04-Apr-23
101 on the calendar:
102 0 amendments
103
104 Read for the third time and passed05-Apr-23
105 as amended
106 Yeas 25
107 Nays 5
108 Abstains 0
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Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

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