

House Bill No. 611

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations - Podiatrists - Scope of Practice

FOR the purpose of allowing certain surgical procedures performed by licensed podiatrists to be performed in a licensed ambulatory surgical center under certain circumstances; requiring a licensed podiatrist who performs certain surgical procedures in a licensed ambulatory surgical center to have certain surgical privileges at a licensed hospital and meet certain requirements; allowing a licensed ambulatory surgical center to establish qualifications or delineate privileges for the performance of certain surgical procedures by a licensed podiatrist; altering the definition of "practice podiatry"; and generally relating to the practice of podiatry.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations

Section 16-101 and 16-103

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health Occupations

16-101.

- (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) "Board" means the State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners.
- (c) "License" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a license issued by the Board to practice podiatry.
- (d) "Licensed podiatrist" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a podiatrist who is licensed by the Board to practice podiatry.
- (e) "Podiatrist" means an individual who practices podiatry.
- (f) (1) "Practice podiatry" means to diagnose or surgically, medically, or mechanically treat [any ailment of] the human foot or ankle, [or any ailment of] the anatomical structures that attach to the human foot, OR THE SOFT TISSUE BELOW THE MID-CALF.
- (2) "Practice podiatry" does not include:
 - (i) Surgical treatment of acute ankle fracture; or
 - (ii) Administration of an anesthetic, other than a local anesthetic.