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Connecticut Podiatric Medical Association

House Bill 5345

March 11, 2014

Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee:

The Connecticut Podiatric Medical Association supports the goals of House Bill 5345 and appreciates being referenced specifically in the bill in line 19 as eligible practitioners for the program.

An Act Concerning Cooperative Health Arrangements will permit Podiatric doctors to create different types of practice models that involve collaborating with our colleagues on individual cases. Current law makes this very difficult unless we establish a corporate structure involving one another.

The bill will require that these relationships be based on a specific plan to optimize quality of care. Payment processes such as pay-for-performance, capitation, shared savings and costs, bundled payments, or other financial incentives or risk assumption mechanisms, as outlined in lines 84—93, could go a long way toward improving the overall system and our patients' health.

We appreciate that the committee continues to review the issue of cooperative healthcare arrangements. In this regard, the Connecticut Podiatric Medical Association supports House Bill 5345.