

Danielle N. Butto, DPM AACFAS
Senate Bill 306
March 16, 2018

Members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Danille N. Butto. I am a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine here in Connecticut and perform foot and ankle surgery. I have gone through the ankle surgery permit process and wish to apprise you of my experience.

I am supportive of Senate Bill 306, *An Act Concerning the Approval of Podiatrists to Perform Standard Ankle Surgical Procedures.*

I am originally from Ohio but chose to come to Connecticut for my residency training. Once my residency was completed, I obtained a fellowship in Reconstructive Foot and Ankle Surgery with Dr Lawrence DiDomenico. Dr DiDomenico is part of a nationwide faculty training that involves both podiatrists and orthopedic surgeons in foot and ankle surgery. Once I completed this fellowship, I had numerous job offers to stay in my native Ohio but I chose to return to Connecticut to practice.

It was my hope to bring back new techniques and procedures to our community. I had more than enough cases to meet the requirements for the state's Ankle Surgery Permit. I met all of the inclusions with supervision logs and cases being done past residency training. It took 8 months before I received my certificate. Not only did it take 8 months, but I was required to submit letters from both my residency director and fellowship director "proving" my cases, even though I was listed on the operative report. Yet, these letters are not part of the formal application process. The bottom-line is this eight-month delay caused a delay in treatment to my patients.

SB 306 will place responsibility for considering ankle surgery permits with the Podiatric Board of Examiners. They are quite capable of making these decisions and, I believe, will do so in a fair and expeditious manner. Thank you.