



Trinity Health
Of New England

Saint Francis Hospital
and Medical Center

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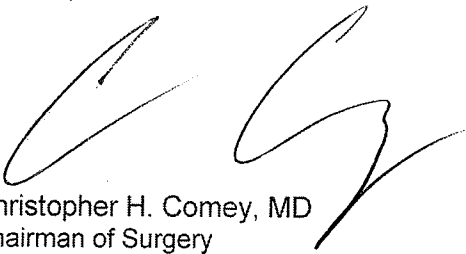
March 13, 2018

Re: Senate Bill 306

Dear Members of the Senate Health Committee:

In my role as Chairman of Surgery at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, I have the privilege of overseeing a very vibrant and forward-thinking Section of Podiatric Surgery. In addition to 32 attendings on our staff, we have a very well regarded Podiatry residency with two residents per year. In addition to a very busy elective Podiatry service, our attendings and residents help provide coverage for our Emergency Department. Working in collaboration with our Orthopedic Surgery colleagues, several of our Podiatric Surgeons provide coverage for foot and ankle trauma in our Emergency Department. Of our 32 Podiatrists on staff, four have an advanced ankle certificate. In my discussions with the advanced ankle certified Podiatrists, it has become clear that there are often significant delays in obtaining an advanced ankle certificate. As an example, after completing all of the necessary cases and paperwork, one of our Podiatrists, Danielle Butto, DPM, still endured an eight-month wait to receive her certificate. Until she actually received this certificate, she was unable to perform elective or emergency ankle procedures.

I would like to respectfully ask the Committee to please consider supporting Senate Bill 306. It is my understanding that this bill would allow the Connecticut Board of Examiners in Podiatry to assume responsibility for review and approval of ankle certificates. I believe that this reassignment of authority would have the desired effect of streamlining the process for obtaining an advanced ankle certificate. I would welcome this change on behalf of the Podiatrists whom I have the privilege of working with. Thank you for your consideration.



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