

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

SENATE FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-319

AN ACT REQUIRING THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER TO STUDY

Title: REIMBURSEMENT PARITY FOR PODIATRISTS.

Vote Date: 3/10/2020

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/5/2020

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following SENATE FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Insurance and Real Estate Committee
Senator Martin Looney
Senator Saud Anwar

REASONS FOR BILL:

This legislation would create a study on the issue of fee parity between podiatric doctors and physicians in state-regulated health insurance plans.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None offered.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Connecticut Podiatric Medical Association, Daniel Davis, DPM](#): CPMA testifies podiatrists have performed the same procedures as counterparts for less compensation. The education a podiatrist receives outperforms an orthopedist. There is a significant decrease in pay depending on procedures. The current practice of wage disparity is discriminatory.

[Saint Francis Hospital, Dr. Eric Kosofsky, Chief of Podiatric Surgery](#): This bill would appropriately and fairly reimburse the work of this specialty. The state disproportionately compensates a podiatric compared to neighboring states, and as a result are losing talent in our state.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

[Connecticut Orthopaedic Society, Michael Aronow, M.D., President](#): Dismisses the need to utilize state resources for a study. Podiatrists, like other health care professionals, negotiate and contract their reimbursement rate for the care and treatment they provide within their scope of practice.

[Connecticut Association of Health Plans](#): Flags this study for continued discussion in the event substitutive language is added.

Reported by: Cassandra Gallion

Date: March 21, 2020