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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sHB 5196**

#### ***AN ACT EXPANDING THE PODIATRIC SCOPE OF PRACTICE.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill expands the scope of practice of podiatric medicine to allow podiatrists to independently perform forefoot and midfoot amputations. To do so, a licensed podiatrist must provide the Department of Public Health (DPH) documentation that they:

1. graduated from a podiatric residency program meeting specified criteria and
2. hold current board certification or qualification in reconstructive rearfoot ankle surgery by the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery, or its successor.

Under the bill, the residency program must have been accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education, or its successor, at the time the podiatrist graduated. The program must have been at least (1) two years in length if the person graduated before June 1, 2006, or (2) three years for graduates on or after that date.

Current law already allows podiatrists who meet the above criteria to independently perform certain ankle surgeries, including all soft tissue and osseous procedures (e.g., fixing ankle fractures, ankle fusions, and ankle arthroscopy). They cannot perform total ankle replacements, tibial pilon fracture surgeries, or surgeries to treat complications within the tibial diaphysis related to the use of external fixation pins.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 36    Nay 1    (03/11/2024)