



General Assembly

**Amendment**

February Session, 2024

LCO No. 4527



Offered by:

REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY, 133<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

SEN. ANWAR, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. KLARIDES-DITRIA, 105<sup>th</sup> Dist.

SEN. SOMERS, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5196

File No. 96

Cal. No. 92

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

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 20-54 of the general statutes is  
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
5 *1, 2024*):

6 (c) A licensed podiatrist may independently engage in the surgical  
7 treatment of the ankle, including the surgical treatment of the  
8 anatomical structures of the ankle, as well as the administration and  
9 prescription of drugs incidental thereto, and the surgical treatment of  
10 manifestations of systemic diseases as they appear on the ankle, after  
11 the podiatrist provides documentation to the Department of Public  
12 Health of the following: (1) (A) Graduation on or after June 1, 2006, from  
13 a three-year residency program in podiatric medicine and surgery that

14 was accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education, or its  
15 successor organization, at the time of graduation, and (B) current board  
16 certification or qualification in reconstructive rearfoot ankle surgery by  
17 the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery, or its successor  
18 organization; or (2) (A) graduation prior to June 1, 2006, from a  
19 residency program in podiatric medicine and surgery that was at least  
20 two years in length and accredited at the time of graduation by said  
21 council, and (B) current board certification or qualification in  
22 reconstructive rearfoot ankle surgery by the American Board of Foot  
23 and Ankle Surgery, or its successor organization. For purposes of this  
24 section, "surgical treatment of the ankle" includes all soft tissue and  
25 osseous procedures, including ankle fracture fixation, ankle fusion,  
26 ankle arthroscopy, insertion or removal of external fixation pins into or  
27 from the tibial diaphysis at or below the level of the myotendinous  
28 junction of the triceps surae, [and] insertion and removal of retrograde  
29 tibiototalcalcaneal intramedullary rods and locking screws up to the  
30 level of the myotendinous junction of the triceps [surae] surae and  
31 Chopart joint-level amputation, but does not include the surgical  
32 treatment of complications within the tibial diaphysis related to the use  
33 of external fixation pins, the performance of total ankle replacements or  
34 the treatment of tibial pilon fractures.

35 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The cochairpersons of the  
36 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
37 matters relating to public health shall convene a panel comprised of two  
38 representatives each from an organization representing podiatrists in  
39 the state and an organization representing orthopedic physicians in the  
40 state to develop, not later than August 1, 2024, a protocol for permitting  
41 licensed podiatrists who have provided documentation to the  
42 Department of Public Health of meeting the requirements set forth in  
43 subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of section 20-54 of the general  
44 statutes, as amended by this act, to perform total ankle replacement  
45 surgery. The protocol shall consist of a description of the experience,  
46 skill and training requirements for performance of such surgery and the  
47 procedure for assessing whether a podiatrist has the requisite

48 experience, skill and training. Not later September 1, 2024, the panel  
 49 shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
 50 of the general statutes, regarding the panel's protocol to the joint  
 51 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of  
 52 matters relating to public health and the Commissioner of Public  
 53 Health. Not later than October 1, 2024, the commissioner shall post such  
 54 protocol on the Department of Public Health's Internet web site.

55 (b) On and after October 1, 2024, a licensed podiatrist who has  
 56 provided documentation to the Department of Public Health of meeting  
 57 the requirements set forth in subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of  
 58 section 20-54 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, may apply  
 59 to a hospital in the state for privileges to perform total ankle  
 60 replacement surgery at such hospital. A hospital shall utilize the  
 61 protocol developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to assess  
 62 whether a podiatrist has the requisite experience, skill and training to  
 63 perform total ankle replacement surgery at such hospital.

64 (c) A podiatrist who has been approved by a hospital for privileges  
 65 to perform total ankle replacement surgery pursuant to subsection (b)  
 66 of this section may perform such surgery at such hospital."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2024</i>	20-54(c)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section