SENATE BILL 162

J2 4lr0876
SB 541/13 – EHE CF 4lr1059

By: **Senators Conway, Dyson, and Young**
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2014
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations – Licensed Podiatrists – Scope of Practice

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "practice podiatry" to include the surgical treatment of acute ankle fracture in the scope of practice of licensed podiatrists; and generally relating to licensed podiatrists.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health Occupations
Section 16–101
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

16–101.

(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) "Board" means the State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners.

(c) "License" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a license issued by the Board to practice podiatry.

(d) "Licensed podiatrist" means, unless the context requires otherwise, a podiatrist who is licensed by the Board to practice podiatry.

(e) "Podiatrist" means an individual who practices podiatry.

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.

(f) (1) "Practice podiatry" means to diagnose or surgically, medically, or mechanically treat the human foot or ankle, the anatomical structures that attach to the human foot, or the soft tissue below the mid–calf.

(2) "Practice podiatry" does not include**[**:

(i) Surgical treatment of acute ankle fracture; or

(ii) Administration**]** **ADMINISTRATION** of an anesthetic, other than a local anesthetic.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.