
David J. Sinopoli, MD

February 17, 2020

The Honorable Shane Pendergrass
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Ms. Pendergrass:

I wanted to write to you in support of the many podiatrists with whom I have had the pleasure of working. I work in a busy, Baltimore-based anesthesia practice, where I frequently interact with podiatrists in the operating room. Our emergency department is one of the busiest in the state, and we see many patients that require surgical interventions by our podiatrist colleagues.

We work together to optimize medically complex patients for their upcoming surgical procedures, solve medical problems to ensure patients can safely undergo an anesthetic, and serve as partners in patient safety.

Podiatrists perform much needed and often emergent surgical procedures on our patients. Notably, CMS, the federal government and 36 other states refer to them as physicians; however, they are not referred to as such in the state of Maryland.

I believe the term “podiatric physician” better honors the services our colleagues provide and would like to support efforts at the state level to change this designation accordingly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DS', with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the signature.

David Sinopoli