

February 17, 2020

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to you as a voter, taxpayer, and physician in Maryland. I am urging you to oppose and vote NO on House Bill 428 (HB0428). This bill would alter the term "podiatrist" to be "podiatric physician". This bill is an attempt by non-physicians to confuse the public by using the term "physician."

Further, this is an effort by the local podiatric community and lobbyists to circumvent national efforts between orthopaedic and podiatric organizations to reach constructive agreement on ensuring proper education, training, and licensing examinations -- as done by *all other physicians* -- before expanding the use of the term "physician" to the podiatric community.

I strongly request that you oppose and *vote NO (UNFAVORABLE)* on House Bill 428 (HB0428).

Thank you for your attention to this important issue and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

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