



MARYLAND PODIATRIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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March 3, 2026

Chair Heather Bagnall
Vice Chair Bonnie Cullison
House Health Committee
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB1153: Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance-- Claims for Reimbursement – Downcoding

Position: Support with amendments

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Maryland Podiatric Medical Association (MPMA), representing over 230 podiatrists licensed in Maryland and the practice of podiatry, I write to support HB 1153 with amendments. We request provider specific language.

On page 5, lines 4, delete the term “physician” and insert “licensed health care provider”.

On page 5, delete lines 5 and 6, and insert “(1) licensed by the same Board as the treating provider; and”

These amendments require a similarly licensed health care providers to make a final decision regarding services provided within the provider’s scope and knowledge. This decision should not be limited to physicians.

For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable vote on HB 1153. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Richard Bloch, MPMA Executive Director, at Richard@SBHPA.com or (410) 332-0736.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Priya Parthasarathy, D.P.M.".

Priya Parthasarathy, D.P.M., MPMA President

Cc: Adam Lowy, D.P.M., Immediate Past-President and Legislative Chair
Sarah Peters, Lobbyist, HBS Maryland
Richard Bloch, J.D., Executive Director