



# 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

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Legislative Document

No. 320

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H.P. 245

House of Representatives, January 24, 2019

### **An Act To Amend the Scope of Practice of Podiatric Medicine**

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Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative KESCHL of Belgrade.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, RUDNICKI of Fairfield,  
Senators: BLACK of Franklin, SANBORN, L. of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §3551, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2017, c. 14, §1, is further  
3 amended to read:

4 **4. Practice of podiatric medicine.** "Practice of podiatric medicine" means the  
5 diagnosis and treatment of maladies of the human foot ~~and~~ ankle and soft tissue of the  
6 lower leg by medical, surgical or mechanical means and the evaluation, diagnosis,  
7 management and prevention of conditions of the lower extremities, which may include  
8 osseous and soft tissue procedures that address the pathology of the foot, ankle and  
9 contiguous attachments below the tibial tuberosity. "Practice of podiatric medicine"  
10 includes the performance of a history and physical on a podiatrist's preoperative patient  
11 and upon the patient's admission into a hospital or ambulatory surgical center. "Practice  
12 of podiatric medicine" includes the administration of local anesthesia in conjunction with  
13 the practice of podiatry. The use of general anesthesia is permitted in conjunction with  
14 the practice of podiatry when administered or supervised by a medical or osteopathic  
15 physician who assumes responsibility for the administration of that anesthesia to a patient  
16 being treated by a podiatrist.

17 **SUMMARY**

18 This bill amends the scope of practice of podiatric medicine to include the diagnosis  
19 and treatment of maladies of the soft tissue of the lower leg and the evaluation, diagnosis,  
20 management and prevention of conditions of the lower extremities.