

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1995 SESSION

CHAPTER 248
SENATE BILL 399

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF PODIATRY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 90-202.2 reads as rewritten:

"§ 90-202.2. 'Podiatry' defined.

~~Podiatry as defined by this Article is the surgical or medical or mechanical treatment of all ailments of the human foot, except the amputation of the foot or toes or the administration of an anesthetic other than local and except the correction of clubfoot deformity and triple arthrodesis.~~

(a) Podiatry as defined by this Article is the surgical, medical, or mechanical treatment of all ailments of the human foot and ankle, and their related soft tissue structures to the level of the myotendinous junction. Excluded from the definition of podiatry is the amputation of the entire foot, the administration of an anesthetic other than local, and the surgical correction of clubfoot of an infant two years of age or less.

(b) Except for procedures for bone spurs and simple soft tissue procedures, any surgery on the ankle or on the soft tissue structures related to the ankle, any amputations, and any surgical correction of clubfoot shall be performed by a podiatrist only in a hospital licensed under Article 5 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes or in a multispecialty ambulatory surgical facility that is not a licensed office setting, and that is licensed under Part D of Article 6 of Chapter 131E of the General Statutes. Before performing any of the surgeries referred to in this subsection in a multispecialty ambulatory surgical facility, the podiatrist shall have applied for and been granted privileges to perform this surgery in the multispecialty ambulatory surgical facility. The granting of these privileges shall be based upon the same criteria for granting hospital privileges under G.S. 131E-85.

(c) The North Carolina Board of Podiatry Examiners shall maintain a list of podiatrists qualified to perform the surgeries listed in subsection (b) of this section, along with specific information on the surgical training successfully completed by each licensee."

Sec. 2. A committee composed of two members of the North Carolina Board of Podiatry Examiners and two members of the North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners shall jointly define by rule what constitutes "simple soft tissue procedures" as that phrase is used in G.S. 90-202.2(b) in order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare. These members shall be selected by their respective Boards, shall begin deliberations on or before August 1, 1995, and shall complete their deliberations on or before October 1, 1995. The decision of this committee shall be binding on both Boards

unless changed by mutual agreement of both Boards. The committee shall terminate October 1, 1995. Rules adopted under this section are exempt from Article 2A of Chapter 150B of the General Statutes.

Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 14th day of June, 1995.

Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate

Harold J. Brubaker
Speaker of the House of Representatives