

**Steven Sepe**

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**From:** David Ruggiero <daverug@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 25, 2025 6:55 PM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Subject:** House Bill 6088

Dear Representative Donovan,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any regulatory changes that would permit nurse practitioners and nurses to perform foot care procedures such as nail trimming and callus reduction for at-risk patients, particularly those with peripheral vascular disease and diabetes. While nurse practitioners and nurses play a valuable role in patient care, podiatrists are the only medical professionals uniquely trained and qualified to provide such specialized services safely.

Patients with peripheral vascular disease and diabetes are at a significantly higher risk for complications arising from improper foot care, including infections, ulcers, and even limb loss. The meticulous assessment and management of these conditions require an extensive understanding of vascular and neurological health, biomechanics, and wound prevention—areas in which podiatrists receive years of focused medical and surgical training. Even seemingly routine procedures, such as trimming nails or reducing calluses, carry serious risks if performed without the necessary expertise, potentially leading to severe infections and hospitalization.

Allowing non-specialists to perform these critical interventions would lower the standard of care for this vulnerable patient population and could lead to preventable medical complications. Podiatrists are specifically trained to recognize early warning signs of systemic issues, make accurate diagnoses, and provide appropriate medical or surgical interventions when necessary. Expanding foot care responsibilities to professionals without this depth of training could inadvertently put patients at greater risk.

For the safety of at-risk individuals, I urge you to ensure that podiatrists remain the sole medical professionals permitted to perform these procedures. I appreciate your attention to this important matter and welcome the opportunity to discuss it further.

Sincerely,

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