

Steven Sepe

From: Jason Mallette <jason.mallette8@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 12:12 PM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Cc: staci.fischer@health.ri.gov
Subject: Bill H6088

Rep Susan Donovan,

My name is Jason Mallette and I am a podiatrist with South County Foot & Ankle, Inc. I am writing to strongly advise against the passage of Bill H6088 for "certified foot care nurses".

Firstly, as a past president and current board member of the Rhode Island Podiatric Medical Association; I think it is egregious that another specialty can attempt to modify current statutes that define podiatry scope of practice in this state. Especially without consulting RIPMA.

Secondly, I see this as a very slippery slope when it comes to best providers for the community. This bill states "home visits" but I can see how the argument could be made that nursing homes should be considered "home visits". Nursing home coverage makes up a lot of business for local podiatrists, our group included. I can easily see a scenario where one of these multi-disciplinary (podiatry, dentistry, optometry) out of state nursing home vendors tries to inject a traveling "foot care nurse" instead of a local podiatrist. This would be bad for patient care and local business.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information

Jason Mallette, DPM, FACFAS
South County Foot & Ankle, Inc.