

a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved April 29, 1997.

---

**CHAPTER 182**

**(Senate Bill 485)**

AN ACT concerning

**Podiatrists – Scope of Practice**

FOR the purpose of altering the scope of practice for a licensed podiatrist by repealing practice exclusions for triple arthrodesis, ankle fusions, and the surgical treatment of ankle trauma, but excluding the surgical treatment of acute ankle fracture; and generally relating to the scope of practice for podiatry.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations

Section 16-101(f)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Health Occupations**

16-101.

(f) (1) "Practice podiatry" means to diagnose or surgically, medically, or mechanically treat any ailment of the human foot or ankle, or any ailment of the anatomical structures that attach to the human foot.

(2) "Practice podiatry" does not include:

(i) [Triple arthrodesis, ankle fusions, or surgical] SURGICAL treatment of ACUTE ankle [trauma] FRACTURE; or

(ii) Administration of an anesthetic, other than a local anesthetic.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved April 29, 1997.