



To: Senate Public Health and Welfare

From: Rachelle Colombo  
Director of Government Affairs

Date: February 11, 2019

Re: SB 61; Podiatry

The Kansas Medical Society appreciates the opportunity to provide neutral testimony on SB 61, allowing for two-year residency trained podiatrists to perform rearfoot and ankle surgery if all other requirements are met and their training was prior to 2007. The purpose of this bill is to “grandfather” in podiatrists who are otherwise qualified to perform this procedure but cannot because three year residencies were not the standard until 2007.

Kansas physicians and podiatrists met in 2011 to craft language allowing for this expansion of scope for appropriately trained podiatrists. Because three year residencies are the standard, the statute included that specification, which unintentionally blocked a very limited number of podiatrists who began practice before the implementation of the three year residencies.

We appreciate the podiatrists reaching out to KMS to discuss this desired change which protects the intent and integrity of the compromise but allows these individuals to be grandfathered. SB 61 does not expand scope of practice or diminish training requirements or threaten patient care. Our thanks for the podiatrists for working with Kansas physicians to ensure these changes continue to reflect the appropriate scope of practice for podiatrists performing rearfoot and ankle surgery.

Thank you.