

SB 178 -- PODIATRISTS

SPONSOR: Shields (Schaaf)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill changes the laws regarding the licensing of podiatrists. The bill:

- (1) Changes references of "podiatry" to "podiatric medicine" and "registration" to "licensure";
- (2) Requires applicants for licensure to take the exam offered by the National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners and an exam given by the State Board of Podiatric Medicine on applicable Missouri laws and regulations;
- (3) Authorizes the state board to charge additional fees for duplicate licenses;
- (4) Allows persons serving an internship in a Missouri hospital to obtain a temporary license for a two-year period;
- (5) Allows for the biennial renewal of licenses;
- (6) Requires retired podiatrists to provide the state board sufficient evidence of the completion of all continuing education requirements prior to the reactivation of their license;
- (7) Increases the per diem for state board members from \$50 to \$70; and
- (8) Authorizes the state board to prohibit reapplication of revoked licenses for a period of two to seven years and may require persons applying for reinstatement to obtain all continuing education requirements and pass specified examinations.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill updates the statutes to make them consistent.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Schaaf; and Missouri Podiatric Medical Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Bob Dominique, Legislative Analyst