

Re: HB 2817

Hello,

My name is Justin Brohard, DO. I am an orthopedic surgeon practicing in Salem, OR. I am fellowship trained and subspecialized in orthopedic foot and ankle surgery. As such, I have significant overlap in patient care with podiatrists in my local area. Throughout my training and practice, I have grown to appreciate podiatrists as a valuable member of the medical community and enjoy sharing the responsibility of patient care with them. I also have a focus in complex reconstruction of the foot and ankle, which often involves revision surgery. Unfortunately, this means I often see patients after things have not gone well with prior surgery, and I know well the significant impact this can have on our patients. Not all medical training is the same. I have trained for 16 years to get into practice as an orthopedic foot and ankle surgeon, with five years of residency and one year of fellowship, with a high volume of surgical hands-on exposure during this time. My concern is that surgeons with less robust training may take on cases beyond their scope and increase the rate of complications for our patient community. The proposed amendment in HB 2817 will allow all podiatrists, regardless of their prior training and experience, the ability to increase their scope of surgical practice, which in my opinion can cause harm. As such I stand with the Oregon Association of Orthopedic Surgeons in opposition to the proposed amendment. Thank you for your diligence in consideration of the proposed amendment HB 2817.

Sincerely,
Justin Brohard DO