

I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
BILL STATUS

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
56-38 (COR)	Therese M. Terlaje	AN ACT RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY BY <i>ADDING</i> A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND <i>AMENDING</i> SUBSECTION (7) OF §12202(a) <i>AMENDING</i> SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF §12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (a)(1) AND (2) OF §12203, SUBSECTION (b)(1) AND (i)(2) OF §12205, AND <i>ADDING</i> A NEW SUBSECTION(10) AND (11) TO §12215(a), ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED.	2/10/25 11:00 a.m.	2/19/25 4:21 p.m.	Committee on Health and Veterans Affairs.	Request: 2/19/25 2/28/25	4/15/25 2:00 p.m.	7/8/25	Exhibits A and B
	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	NOTES			
	7/28/25	AN ACT TO <i>AMEND</i> §§ 12202(a)(7), (b)(4), (7), AND (8); <i>AMEND</i> §§ 12203(a)(1) AND (2); AND § 12205(b)(1) AND (i)(2) ALL OF ARTICLE 2, PART 1, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY.	7/31/25	8/6/25	8/18/25				



COPY

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
Thirty-Eighth Guam Legislature

August 5, 2025

The Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan
Ufisinan I Maga'håga
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Dear *Maga'håga* Leon Guerrero:

Transmitted herewith are Bill Nos. 5-38 (COR), 16-38 (COR), 17-38 (COR), 24-38 (COR), 45-38 (COR), 56-38 (COR), 68-38 (COR), 76-38 (COR), 81-38 (COR), 84-38 (COR), 92-38 (COR), 97-38 (LS), 100-38 (COR), 103-38 (COR), 106-38 (COR), 110-38 (COR), 123-38 (COR), 124-38 (COR), 125-38 (COR), 139-38 (COR), 149-38 (LS), 153-38 (COR), 154-38 (COR), and 155-38 (COR), and Substitute Bill Nos. 30-38 (COR) and 48-38 (COR) which were passed by *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* on July 31, 2025.

Sincerely,

Senator V. Anthony Ada
Acting Legislative Secretary

Enclosure (26)

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	
CENTRAL FILES OFFICE	
Rec'd By:	Elaine Tajalle
Date:	Time:



COPY

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2025 (FIRST) Regular Session

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO *I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN*

This is to certify that **Bill No. 56-38 (COR)**, “AN ACT TO *AMEND* §§ 12202(a)(7), (b)(4), (7), AND (8); *AMEND* §§ 12203(a)(1) AND (2); AND § 12205(b)(1) AND (i)(2) ALL OF ARTICLE 2, PART 1, CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS AND THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PODIATRY,” was on the 31st day of July 2025, duly and regularly passed.



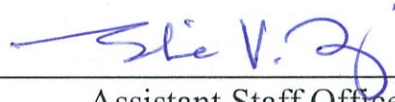
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Speaker

Attested:



V. Anthony Ada
Acting Legislative Secretary

This Act was received by *I Maga'hågan Guåhan* this 6th day of August, 2025, at 7:58 o'clock A.M.



Assistant Staff Officer
Maga'håga's Office

APPROVED:

Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero
I Maga'hågan Guåhan

Date: _____

Public Law No. _____

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	
CENTRAL FILES OFFICE	
Rec'd By:	Elaine Tajalle
Date:	_____
Time:	_____

I MINA'TRENTAI OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2025 (FIRST) Regular Session

Bill No. 56-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

Therese M. Terlaje
V. Anthony Ada
Chris Barnett
Frank F. Blas, Jr.
Vincent A.V. Borja
Shelly V. Calvo
Christopher M. Dueñas
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao
Jesse A. Lujan
Tina Rose Muña Barnes
William A. Parkinson
Sabina Flores Perez
Sabrina Salas Matanane
Joe S. San Agustin
Telo T. Taitague

**AN ACT TO AMEND §§ 12202(a)(7), (b)(4), (7), AND (8);
AMEND §§ 12203(a)(1) AND (2); AND § 12205(b)(1) AND
(i)(2) ALL OF ARTICLE 2, PART 1, CHAPTER 12, TITLE
10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO
INCLUDING PODIATRY UNDER THE GUAM BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, AND TO ADOPT RULES
AND REGULATIONS AND THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR
PODIATRY.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*
recognizes the critical role podiatrists play in Guam's healthcare system, providing
specialized medical care for conditions affecting the foot, ankle, and lower extremities.

1 Their expertise includes diagnosing and treating injuries, managing chronic conditions
2 such as diabetes-related foot complications, performing surgical procedures, and
3 prescribing medications.

4 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that, despite their surgical and medical
5 responsibilities, podiatrists in Guam are currently regulated under the Guam Board of
6 Allied Health Examiners. While this board oversees a variety of health professions,
7 podiatry is distinct in its training, scope of practice, and integration into medical care.
8 In many U.S. jurisdictions, podiatrists are regulated under state medical boards that
9 reflect the medical nature of their work.

10 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that there is a need for a regulatory framework that
11 aligns podiatry with other physician-level professions. Given their ability to diagnose,
12 perform surgery, and prescribe controlled substances, podiatrists would be more
13 appropriately regulated under the Guam Board of Medical Examiners, which sets
14 standards for medical practice, ethical conduct, and patient safety.

15 *Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that transferring podiatrists from the Guam Board
16 of Allied Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners will improve
17 the efficiency and consistency of medical licensing and oversight. This transition will
18 ensure that podiatrists are subject to the same professional standards as other medical
19 practitioners, fostering greater collaboration within the healthcare system and
20 enhancing public confidence in their care.

21 Therefore, it is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to amend the regulatory
22 structure for podiatry, placing it under the authority of the Guam Board of Medical
23 Examiners to ensure appropriate oversight, consistency in medical licensing, and
24 alignment with national best practices.

25 **Section 2.** Transfer of Jurisdiction with Respect to the Profession of Podiatry
26 from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical
27 Examiners.

1 (a) Jurisdiction with respect to the licensure and practice of podiatry
2 presently located in Article 17 of Part 2, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code
3 Annotated, is transferred from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to
4 the Guam Board of Medical Examiners to be placed in Article 2 of Part 1,
5 Chapter 12 Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, to be codified as determined by the
6 Compiler of Laws as authorized by 1 GCA, Chapter 16, § 1606.

7 (b) § 12802(a)(9) of Article 8, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code
8 Annotated, is repealed and reenacted as a new subsection (8) of § 12202(a) of
9 Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated; and the
10 remaining subsections of § 12802(a) to be renumbered as determined by the
11 Compiler of Laws as authorized by 1GCA, Chapter 16, § 1606.

12 (c) All Guam statutes and administrative rules and regulations not
13 specifically identified or mentioned in this enactment which refer to the
14 jurisdiction and authority of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners over
15 the licensure, practice, and discipline of podiatrists or doctors of podiatry are
16 amended to reflect the transfer of jurisdiction from the Guam Board of Allied
17 Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners, which shall
18 henceforward perform all functions with respect to licensure, discipline, and
19 rulemaking concerning this one profession formerly performed by the Guam
20 Board of Allied Health Examiners.

21 **Section 3.** § 12202(a)(7) of Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title Guam Code
22 Annotated, is *amended* to read as follows:

23 “(7) using the designation Doctor, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of
24 Osteopathy, Physician, Surgeon, Physician and Surgeon, Doctor of Podiatry,
25 Podiatrist, Dr., M.D., D.O., D.P.M. or any combination thereof in the conduct
26 of any occupation or profession pertaining to the prevention, diagnosis or
27 treatment of human disease or condition, unless such a designation additionally

1 contains the description of another branch of the healing arts for which one
2 holds a valid license in the jurisdiction.”

3 **Section 4.** § 12202(b)(4) of Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code
4 Annotated, is *amended* to read as follows:

5 “(4) those practicing dentistry, nursing, optometry, psychology or any
6 other of the healing arts in accord with, and as provided by the laws of Guam;”

7 **Section 5.** § 12202(b)(7) and (8) of Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10,
8 Guam Code Annotated, are hereby *amended* to read:

9 “(7) those fully licensed to practice medicine or podiatry in another
10 jurisdiction of the United States who briefly render emergency medical
11 treatment or briefly provide critical medical service at the specific lawful
12 direction of a medical institution or federal agency that assumes full
13 responsibility for that treatment or service and is approved by the state medical
14 board.”

15 “(8) A licensed physician or podiatrist who resides outside of Guam
16 within a state, federal jurisdiction or country is not subject to Guam medical
17 licensure requirements where said licensed physician is providing consultation
18 to a Guam licensed physician through the use of telemedicine technology if:

19 (A) the non-resident licensed consulting physician or podiatrist
20 operates no clinical practice or office on Guam;

21 (B) the non-resident licensed consulting physician or podiatrist
22 does not render any final written or otherwise documented final medical
23 opinion concerning the diagnosis or treatment of a patient on Guam
24 directly to the patient; and

25 (C) the non-resident licensed consulting physician or podiatrist
26 does not render any treatment to any patient on Guam.

27 (D) The non-resident licensed consulting physician or podiatrist
28 may render care and provide final diagnostic and treatment decisions

1 without an active Guam license if the consultant is to act as a receiving
2 physician, podiatrist, or physician assistant for the patient in the
3 consultant's jurisdiction.

4 (E) The non-resident licensed consulting physician or podiatrist
5 may render care and provide diagnostic and treatment recommendations
6 without an active Guam license if the consulting physician or podiatrist
7 acts jointly and directly with the local attending physician or podiatrist of
8 the patient who is the subject of the consultation.

9 (F) The non-resident licensed consulting physician or podiatrist
10 rendering consultation shall abide by all local and federal laws with
11 regard to patient confidentiality."

12 **Section 6.** § 12203(a)(1) and (2) of Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10,
13 Guam Code Annotated, are *amended* to read as follows:

14 "(a) There is established, in and for the government of Guam, a Guam
15 Board of Medical Examiners (Board) composed of eight (8) members who shall
16 be nominated and appointed by *I Maga'hågan/Maga'låhen Guåhan*, with the
17 advice and consent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan*.

18 (1) At least six (6) of the eight (8) members shall be physicians,
19 Doctors of osteopathy, or surgeons licensed in Guam, and one (1) shall
20 be a podiatrist licensed in Guam. The members of the Board who are
21 licensed healthcare providers shall be persons of recognized professional
22 ability and integrity, and shall have practiced in Guam for at least five (5)
23 consecutive years immediately preceding the appointment."

24 "(2) All members of the Board shall be citizens or permanent
25 residents of the United States who have resided in Guam for at least five
26 (5) consecutive years immediately preceding the appointment."

27 **Section 7.** § 12205(b)(1) Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code
28 Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

1 “(1) The applicant shall possess the degree of Doctor of Medicine or
2 Osteopathy or Podiatry from a medical college or school located in the United
3 States, its territories or possessions, or Canada that was approved by the Board
4 or by a private nonprofit accrediting body approved by the Board at the time the
5 degree was conferred.”

6 **Section 8.** § 12205(i)(2) Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code
7 Annotated, is hereby *amended* to read as follows:

8 “(2) The Board shall review and verify medical credentials and screen
9 applicant records through recognized national physician information services
10 (e.g. the Federation of State Medical Boards’ Board Action Data Bank and
11 Credentials Verification Service, the files of the American Medical Association,
12 the American Osteopathic Association, the American Podiatry Association, and
13 other national data banks and information resources).”

14 **Section 9.** Repeal of Administrative Rules and Regulations. All references
15 found within any rules and regulations presently located at Title 25, Guam
16 Administrative Rules and Regulations, Chapter 10, governing the licensure, practice,
17 and supervision of podiatry are repealed.

18 **Section 10.** Approval of Administrative Rules and Regulations for Podiatry.
19 Additions to Title 25, Guam Administrative Rules and Regulations, Chapter 11, the
20 Guam Board of Medical Examiners Administrative Rules and Regulations governing
21 the licensure and practice of Podiatry, attached hereto as Exhibit A, are approved.
22 GBME may repeal, amend, or add to these rules pursuant to 5 GCA, Chapter 9,
23 Administrative Adjudication Law (AAL).

24 **Section 11.** Codes of Professional Conduct and Ethics. The Guam Board of
25 Medical Examiners Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Podiatrists, attached
26 hereto as Exhibit B, is approved. GBME may repeal, amend, or add to these rules
27 pursuant to 5 GCA, Chapter 9, Administrative Adjudication Law (AAL).

28 **Section 12. Severability.** If any provision of this Act or its application to any

1 person or circumstance is found to be invalid or inorganic, such invalidity shall not
2 affect other provisions or applications of this Act that can be given effect without the
3 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are
4 severable.

5 **Section 13. Effective Date.** This Act shall be effective upon its enactment.

EXHIBIT A
GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS RULES AND REGULATIONS
FOR
PODIATRISTS

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LICENSING OFFICE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL
SERVICES
194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, Suite 213
Hagåtña, Guam 96910
Tel: (671) 735-7405

**GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS**

The following rules shall be added to 25 GAR Chapter 11.

§ _____ RULES APPLICABLE TO PODIATRISTS

§ _____. Definition – Podiatric Medicine

Podiatric medicine means the diagnosis, medical, surgical, mechanical, manipulative, and electrical treatment of the human foot and ankle, including the tendons that insert into the foot, and the nonsurgical treatment of the muscles and tendons of the leg governing the functions of the foot.

§ _____. Scope of Practice.

(a) A license to practice podiatric medicine on Guam authorizes the holder to practice podiatric medicine as defined in these Rules.

(b) No doctor of podiatric medicine shall do any amputation of the foot in total. Surgical debridement with plastic repairs or reconstruction of diseased, traumatized or devitalized, nonviable or necrotic tissue shall be the standard of treatment for these diseased processes.

(c) Doctors of podiatric medicine practicing within the framework of this policy statement are subject to all laws governing gross negligence, incompetence and repeated negligent acts

§ _____. Podiatric Medicine [RESERVED]

§ _____. RENEWAL OF LICENSE – PODIATRIST

(a) Licenses expire biennially on December 31st of even numbered years and may be renewed upon payment of a renewal fee and proof of completion of

**GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS**

continuing education requirements as stated in these rules and regulations. The Board staff shall, no later than September 1st of each even-numbered year, mail a notice of renewal along with a renewal form to the licensee's latest address on file with the Board. Failure of the Board staff to send renewal notices and forms does not excuse the licensee from failing to file the forms, documentation, and fees required to renew their license. A new certificate or other evidence of current licensure may be mailed to all persons completing renewal requirements as stated herein.

(b) An individual licensed on or after October 1 of the renewal year is not required to renew or provide proof of continuing education until the following renewal term.

(c) In addition to payment of required fees and proof of continuing education, additional documentation is required of the following allied health professionals:

(1) *Podiatrists* must, at the time of license renewal, provide proof or otherwise certify that they possess a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation ("CPR") or Basic Life Support ("BLS"). Failure to maintain current CPR or BLS certification shall result in the automatic suspension of the Podiatrist's license.

**GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS**

§ _____. Continuing Education

(a) Minimum continuing education requirements. In order to qualify for renewal of a podiatrist license, a minimum of thirty (50) credit hours of continuing education must be earned during each two (2) year licensure period, of which a minimum of thirty (30) credit hours must be directly related to the licensee's profession within each two (2) year licensure period.

§ _____. Approved Continuing Education Programs. The following are approved by the Board as continuing education programs:

(a) programs which are approved by the American Podiatric Medical Association and its affiliated organizations;

(b) programs that qualify for Category I Credit of the American Medical Association and the American Osteopathic Association and their affiliated organizations;

(c) programs offered by approved colleges or schools of podiatric medicine, medicine and osteopathic medicine;

(d) podiatric residency program or clinical fellowship in a hospital approved for podiatric residencies (Completion of a residency program or clinical fellowship shall be credit for fifty (50) hours of approved continuing education.);

and (e) programs offered by other individuals, organizations and institutions approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

§ _____. Denial, Suspension, or Revocation of Licensure.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule, the Board of Medical

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ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS**

Examiners is authorized to refuse, revoke, or suspend the license of a podiatrist for any of the following reasons:

(1) Conviction of felony in Guam or any other state, territory, or country. Conviction as used in this paragraph shall include a finding or verdict of guilty, an admission of guilt, or a plea of nolo contendere;

(2) Habitually using any habit-forming drug such as opium or any of its derivatives, morphine, heroin, cocaine, or any habit-forming drug;

(3) Fraud or deceit in obtaining initial approval as a podiatrist, or in the practice of the podiatry profession;

(4) Professional misconduct of incompetence, or gross carelessness or manifest incapacity in the practice of medicine;

(5)

(6) Having his/her approval to serve as a podiatrist revoked or suspended or having any other disciplinary action taken, or an application for approval refused, revoked, or suspended by the proper regulatory authority of another state, territory, or country;

(7) Violating a lawful regulation promulgated by the Board or violating a lawful of the Board, previously entered by the Board in a disciplinary proceeding.

**GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS**

(b) Disciplinary measures: When the Guam Board of Medical Examiners determines that the approval of a podiatrist may be refused, revoked, or suspended under the terms of this Act, it may:

- (1) Deny the application for approval;
- (2) Administer a public or private reprimand;
- (3) Revoke, suspend, limit, or otherwise restrict licensure and/or registration;
- (4) Require a podiatrist to submit to the care, counseling, or treatment of a physician or physicians designated by the Board;
- (5) Suspend enforcement of its finding thereof and place the podiatrist on probation with the right to vacate the probationary order;
- (6) Restore or reissue, at its discretion, a license to serve as a podiatrist, and impose the disciplinary or corrective measure which it might have originally imposed.

EXHIBIT B

GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

CODES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & ETHICS

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LICENSING OFFICE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL
SERVICES

194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, Suite 213

Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Tel: (671) 735-7405

**GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES & REGULATIONS**

25 GAR§ ____ . CODES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT/ ETHICS

(a) All licensees, registrants, and certificate holders shall comply with the following Codes of Professional Conduct:

(1) **DOCTORS OF MEDICINE. [RESERVED]**

(2) **DOCTORS OF OSTEOPATHY. [RESERVED]**

(3) **DOCTORS OF PODIATRY.** The Code of Professional Conduct for Podiatrists licensed by the Board shall be the American Podiatric Medical Association – Code of Ethics (2013) as adopted as of the effective dates of these rules, and any revisions made hereafter thereto. These Rules shall be known as the Code of Professional Conduct for Podiatrist and by reference thereto shall have the full force and effect of a regulation of the Board. In the event of a conflict between the Code of Professional Conduct for Podiatrist and any statute enacted by the Guam Legislature or any rule promulgated by this Board the more recent in time statute or rule shall control.