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)	·	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 ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION (9) AND AMEXDING SUBSECTION (7) OF \$12202(a), SUBSECTIONS (4), (7), (8) OF \$12202(b), SUBSECTIONS (10), AND (0)(2) OF \$12203, SUBSECTION (0)) AND (0)(2) OF \$12203, SUBSECTION (0)) AND (0)(2) OF \$12203, 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
2000 (2011)	SESSION DATE	TITLE	DATE PASSED	TRANSMITTED	DUE DATE	PUBLIC LAW NO.	DATE SIGNED	NOTES	
	7/28/25	AN ACT TO .MEX.D §\$ 12202(a)(T), (b)(4), (7), AND (8); .MEX.D §\$ 12205(a)(1) AND (i)(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	38-42	8/18/25	Received: 8/18/25 Mess and Comm. Doc. No. 38GL-25-1053	

CLERKS OFFICE- Areferred Version Page 1

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

364-25-1053 OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER FRANK F. BLAS JR.

AUG 18 2025

Received:

Transmitted via email to speakerblas@guamlegislature.gov

August 18, 2025

HONORABLE FRANK F. BLAS JR., Speaker

I Mina'trentai Ocho na Liheslaturan Guåhan 38th Guam Legislature Guam Congress Building 163 Chalan Santo Papa Hagåtña, Guam 96910

Re: 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."

Bill No. 123-38 (COR), "AN ACT TO ADD A NEW § 12215(a)(10) AND (11), AND AMEND § 12101(r), § 12202(a)(7), § 12202(b)(7) AND (8), § 12203(a), § 121602, § 121604 AND § 121609, ALL OF CHAPTER 12, TITLE 10, GUAM CODE ANNOTATED, RELATIVE TO INCLUDING PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS ON THE GUAM BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS, UPDATING PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS, AND ADOPTING RULES AND REGULATIONS AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS."

Håfa Adai Mr. Speaker,

Last month, the Guam Legislature passed Bill No. 56-38 (COR) and Bill No. 123-38 (COR), which update the regulatory structure for podiatrists and physician assistants by transferring their licensure, regulation, and oversight from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners and expanding the board from seven to nine members, adding a position for a podiatrist and physician assistant. Both pieces of legislation also adopt rules and regulations and codes of ethics for each profession. Together, these bills ensure that podiatrists and physician assistants are subject to the same professional standards as other medical practitioners.

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To: The Hon. Frank Blas, Jr., Speaker

Fr: The Hon. Joshua F. Tenorio, Acting Governor of Guam

Date: August 18, 2025

Re: Bill No. 56-38 (COR) and Bill No. 123-38 (COR)

For these reasons, I sign Bill No. 56-38 (COR) and Bill No. 123-38 into law as *Public Law 38-42* and *Public Law 38-43*, respectively.

JOSHUA F. TENORIO

I Åkto Maga'låhen Guåhan Acting Governor of Guam

Enclosure:

Bill No. 56-38 (COR) nka P.L. 38-42

Bill No. 123-38 (COR) nka P.L. 38-43

cc via email:

Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Maga'hågan Guåhan, Governor of Guam

Compiler of Laws



38GL-25-1053
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COMMITTEE ON RULES August 18, 2025 6:26 p.m.

Marie Crisostomo

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

CERTIFICATION OF PASSAGE OF AN ACT TO I MAGA'HÂGAN GUÂHAN

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'hagan Guahan this 6th day of August, 2025, at 7:58 o'clock A .M. Assistant Staff Officer Maga'håga's Office APPRO JOSHUA F. TENORIO ACTING GOVERNOR OF GUAM Date: August 18, 2025
Public Law No. 38-42

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

Bill No. 56-38 (COR)

Introduced by:

1

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
- 3 recognizes the critical role podiatrists play in Guam's healthcare system, providing
- 4 specialized medical care for conditions affecting the foot, ankle, and lower extremities.

1 Their expertise includes diagnosing and treating injuries, managing chronic conditions

such as diabetes-related foot complications, performing surgical procedures, and

3 prescribing medications.

I Liheslaturan Guåhan finds that, despite their surgical and medical

responsibilities, podiatrists in Guam are currently regulated under the Guam Board of

Allied Health Examiners. While this board oversees a variety of health professions,

podiatry is distinct in its training, scope of practice, and integration into medical care.

In many U.S. jurisdictions, podiatrists are regulated under state medical boards that

9 reflect the medical nature of their work.

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

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

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

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

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

- (b) § 12802(a)(9) of Article 8, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, is repealed and reenacted as a new subsection (8) of § 12202(a) of Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title 10, Guam Code Annotated; and the remaining subsections of § 12802(a) to be renumbered as determined by the Compiler of Laws as authorized by 1GCA, Chapter 16, § 1606.
- (c) All Guam statutes and administrative rules and regulations not specifically identified or mentioned in this enactment which refer to the jurisdiction and authority of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners over the licensure, practice, and discipline of podiatrists or doctors of podiatry are amended to reflect the transfer of jurisdiction from the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners to the Guam Board of Medical Examiners, which shall henceforward perform all functions with respect to licensure, discipline, and rulemaking concerning this one profession formerly performed by the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners.
- **Section 3.** § 12202(a)(7) of Article 2, Part 1, Chapter 12, Title Guam Code Annotated, is *amended* to read as follows:
 - "(7) using the designation Doctor, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Physician, Surgeon, Physician and Surgeon, Doctor of Podiatry, Podiatrist, Dr., M.D., D.O., D.P.M. or any combination thereof in the conduct of any occupation or profession pertaining to the prevention, diagnosis or 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			
0	jurisdiction of the United States who briefly render emergency medical			
1	treatment or briefly provide critical medical service at the specific lawful			
2	direction of a medical institution or federal agency that assumes full			
3	responsibility for that treatment or service and is approved by the state medical			
4	board."			
5	"(8) A licensed physician or podiatrist who resides outside of Guam			
6	within a state, federal jurisdiction or country is not subject to Guam medical			
7	licensure requirements where said licensed physician is providing consultation			
8	to a Guam licensed physician through the use of telemedicine technology if:			
9	(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 <i>amended</i> to read as follows:

1	(1) The applicant shall possess the degree of Doctor of Medicine of			
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

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			

may be renewed upon payment of a renewal fee and proof of completion of

(a) Licenses expire biennially on December 31st of even numbered years and

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.

§ ____. 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

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.

- (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

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.