

HOUSE BILL 1656
By Maddox

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63,
Chapter 3, relative to podiatrists.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-3-102(1), is amended by deleting the words "board of registration in podiatry" and by substituting instead the words "board of podiatric medical examiners".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-3-103, is amended in subsections (a) and (b) by deleting the words "board of registration in podiatry" and by substituting instead the words "board of podiatric medical examiners".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-3-119(b), is amended by deleting the words "board of registration in podiatry" and by substituting instead the words "board of podiatric medical examiners".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-3-115 is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 63-115.

(a) Each person licensed to practice as a podiatrist in this state shall biannually apply to the board for renewal of such person's license and shall pay a renewal fee set by the board. A podiatrist who fails to renew such license by the date of expiration of the license shall not continue to practice as a podiatrist in this state.

(b) A podiatrist who fails to timely renew such license may seek reinstatement from the board. The board may reinstate the license upon good cause shown, upon payment of all past due renewal fees and a late renewal fee

and upon compliance with any other reasonable conditions imposed by the board.

(c) The board may utilize the renewal system described in § 63-1-107.

(d) Any licensed podiatrist who has retired from practice in this state shall not be required to renew such license if such person files with the board an affidavit of retirement on a form furnished by the board. The affidavit shall state the date on which the person retired from practice and such other facts as the board deems necessary to verify such retirement. If the person thereafter wishes to reenter practice in this state the person shall apply for license reactivation, pay the reactivation fee set by the board, and meet such other reasonable requirements deemed necessary by the board.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-3-116, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Section 63-3-116.

(a) As a condition of the biennial renewal of a podiatrist license, every licensed podiatrist must obtain at least fifteen (15) hours of continuing medical education in each calendar year in programs approved by the board. The only basis upon which a podiatrist may seek an exemption from this requirement or an extension of time for meeting this requirement is illness or disability.

(b) Podiatrists who have properly retired their licenses pursuant to § 63-3-115(d) are exempt from the requirement of subsection (a).

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.