



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Washington D.C.. A bill introduced Nov. 18 calls for removing the mandate that Part D prescribing health care providers be enrolled in Medicare in order for pharmacists to be reimbursed.

U.S. Reps. Kenny Marchant, R-Texas, and Earl Blumenauer, D-Ore., introduced H.R. 4062, the Protecting Seniors Access to Proper Care Act, which if passed into law, would exempt podiatrists from the current provision of the Affordable Care Act that requires all health care providers who prescribe to a Part D beneficiary be enrolled in the Medicare program in order for the pharmacist to be reimbursed for the prescription. The three other original cosponsors of H.R. 4062 are Diane Black, R-Tenn., Devin Nunes, R-Calif., and Mike Thompson, D-Calif.

"This bill corrects an unnecessary intrusion into the patient-podiatrist relationship and the professional relationship between the podiatrist and the pharmacist."

"Seniors' access to podiatry treatments and care shouldn't be compromised by unnecessary compliance burdens for providers," said Rep. Blumenauer. "This legislation will lift needless requirements so providers can better focus their time on improving patient care and outcomes."

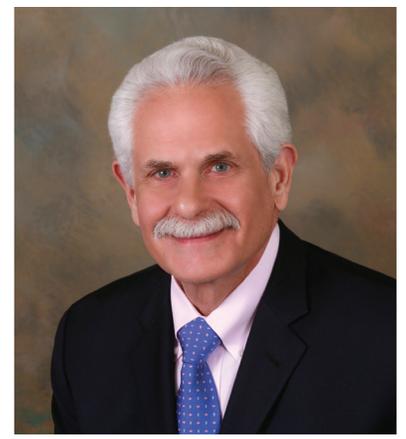
The new bill would eliminate the requirement for podiatrists as well as chiropractors, optometrists and dentists.

"This is a patient-focused solution that shows Congress is serious about restoring individual choice in health care, improving outcomes, and lowering costs," said Rep. Marchant. Unless the new legislation passes, enforcement of the mandate will go into effect **until June 1, 2016.**

Thank you,
Theodore L. Varoz, D.P.M.

PODIATRIST OF THE YEAR

Kenneth Rehm, DPM was awarded Podiatrist of the Year at the ABMSP's fall Board of Directors meeting. Ken has been an active member of the Board of Directors and currently serves as Treasurer. He was instrumental in spearheading the development of the Limb Preservation and Salvage examination. He has also authored several articles on behalf of ABMSP and the profession. Well deserved, Ken!



Kenneth D. Rehm, DPM

NEW YORK TRADE SHOW

New York Podiatric Clinical Conference & Exhibition

- January 22-24, 2016
- New York, NY
- Booth #608

NEW DUES SCHEDULE

The dues notices for 2016 will be going out soon, with a due date of June 1, 2016, and the dues amounts have changed. The dues will now be based on the number of credentials a diplomate holds from ABMSP. The new structure is as follows:

# OF ABMSP CREDENTIALS	DUES
ONE	\$525
TWO	\$500
THREE	\$475
FOUR	\$450

MONTHLY E-BLASTS

The ABMSP Publications Committee has ensured that our diplomates receive a monthly email from us with news from the organization, as a way to keep everyone in the loop. If you have not been receiving these emails, please be sure your spam filter allows emails from abmsp@abmsp.org

ABMSP PLANS PRESS RELEASES

In 2015 we sent out a series of press releases on topics related to the value of podiatric certification, which were picked up by several media outlets and proved to be quite successful in helping to publicize our organization and credentials. Based on that success, we will be releasing one press release every month in 2016. Be sure to watch for us in magazines and in other news outlets.

APMA BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Working with the OPEIU/Guild 45 and their legal staff, an amendment to the APMA Bylaws has been submitted for inclusion in the APMA fall House of Delegates meeting. The amendment would essentially remove the right of APMA to determine which certification organization's credentials will be accepted by hospitals and insurance companies. ABMSP is now seeking individuals who have ties to the APMA House of Delegates - either nationally or through their state organization - who can help us with our efforts. If you have a tie to your state organization or if you are a member of the APMA House of Delegates, please email abmsp@abmsp.org so we can include you in our progress.

EXAMINATION STATISTICS

The ABMSP examinations were each offered twice in 2015. The Primary Care examination was administered to a total of 47 podiatrists. The examination contains 250 multiple choice questions and the passing score is 168. Twenty-six of the candidates passed the exam to become Board Eligible until their cases are accepted. The Foot and Ankle Surgery examination had a total of 20 candidates sit for it; 16 of them passed. The foot and ankle examination contains 250 questions and the passing score is 167. There were 14 candidates who took the Diabetic Foot Wound examination and 7 of them passed. The diabetic examination has 250 questions

on it and a passing score of 175. There were 3 candidates who took the Limb Preservation and Salvage examination in 2015 with 2 of them passing. That examination contains 250 questions and the passing score is 175.

At the present time there are 721 diplomates certified in Primary Care, 338 in Foot and Ankle Surgery, 265 in Diabetic Foot Wounds, and 31 in Limb Preservation and Salvage (although some diplomates overlap and hold more than one credential from ABMSP).

  **Learn more at www.abmsp.org**

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