

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY HACKNEY

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 524 am S

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the practice of podiatry; and  
7 providing for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 \* Section 1. AS 08.64.170(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) No person may practice medicine, podiatry, osteopathy or  
11 acupuncture in the state unless he is licensed under this chapter,  
12 except that

13 (1) a physician assistant may examine, diagnose or treat per-  
14 sons under the supervision, control, and responsibility of either a  
15 physician licensed under this chapter or a physician exempted from  
16 licensure under sec. 370 of this chapter;

17 (2) a physician-trained mobile intensive care paramedic may  
18 render emergency lifesaving service; and

19 (3) a person licensed under AS 08.36 may perform acupuncture  
20 in the regular practice of dentistry, subject to the regulations of  
21 the Board of Dental Examiners.

22 \* Sec. 2. AS 08.64.170 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

23 (d) A podiatrist practicing in the state on the effective date of  
24 this Act is exempt from this section, and shall be issued a license  
25 without examination if application is made within one year of the  
26 effective date of this Act.

27 \* Sec. 3. AS 08.64 is amended by adding a new section to read:

28 Sec. 08.64.209. QUALIFICATIONS FOR PODIATRY APPLICANTS. (a)

29 Each applicant who desires to practice podiatry shall meet the qualifi-

1 cations prescribed in sec. 200(1) and (4) of this chapter and shall

2 (1) submit a certificate of graduation from a legally  
3 chartered school of podiatry approved by the board;

4 (2) take the examination required by sec. 210 of this chapter.  
5 The State Medical Board shall call to its aid a podiatrist of known  
6 ability who is licensed to practice podiatry to assist in the examination  
7 and licensure of applicants for a license to practice podiatry.

8 (3) meet other qualifications of experience or education  
9 which the board may require.

10 (b) The provisions of secs. 180 - 190, 220, and 230 - 380 of this  
11 chapter relating to the practice of medicine or osteopathy apply to the  
12 application procedure, testing, and practice of podiatry, as appropriate.

13 \* Sec. 4. AS 08.64.380 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

14 (9) "practice of podiatry" means the medical, mechanical, and  
15 surgical treatment of ailments of the foot, the muscles and tendons of  
16 the leg governing the functions of the foot, and superficial lesions of  
17 the hand other than those associated with trauma; the use of prepara-  
18 tions, medicines, and drugs as are necessary for the treatment of these  
19 ailments; the treatment of the local manifestations of systemic diseases  
20 as they appear in the hand and foot, except that (1) a patient shall be  
21 concurrently referred to a physician or osteopath for the treatment of  
22 the systemic disease itself; (2) general anaesthetics may be used only  
23 in colleges of podiatry approved by the State Medical Board and in  
24 hospitals approved by the joint commission on the accreditation of  
25 hospitals, or the American osteopathic association; and (3) the use of  
26 x-ray or radium for therapeutic purposes is not permitted.

27 \* Sec. 5. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.10.  
28 070(c).