

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 328**

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S. P. 151

In Senate, February 6, 1979

Referred to the Committee on Labor. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator Gill of Cumberland.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT to Amend the Workers' Compensation Statute to Provide for Podiatric Services.**

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

**39 MRSA § 52**, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 696, § 405, is further amended by inserting after the 2nd paragraph a new paragraph to read:

**An employee sustaining personal injury arising out of and in the course of his employment, provided the injury relates to the foot, shall be entitled to podiatric examination, diagnosis and treatment therefor. Examination may include diagnostic x-rays. A duly licensed podiatrist shall be considered competent to testify before the Workers' Compensation Commission.**

STATEMENT OF FACT

The Workers' Compensation statute, as currently written, does not contain any specific reference to podiatric services. There is some experience which suggest that Workers' Compensation insurance carriers are not paying for this service without an order from an allopathic or osteopathic physician. The result is that either injured employees cannot have these services or they have the additional inconvenience of having to visit an additional physician.