

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1992

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Legislative Document

No. 2362

H.P. 1682

House of Representatives, February 20, 1992

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.  
Reference to the Committee on Business Legislation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative BUTLAND of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by President PRAY of Penobscot, Representative HOLT of Bath and Representative PENDLETON of Scarborough.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-TWO

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An Act Concerning the Authority of Podiatrists.

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(AFTER DEADLINE)



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

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4       Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §2102, sub-§2, ¶A, as repealed and replaced by  
PL 1985, c. 724, §2, is amended to read:

6       A. Diagnosis and treatment of human responses to actual or  
8       potential physical and emotional health problems, through  
such services as case finding, health teaching, health  
10       counseling and provision of care supportive to or  
restorative of life and well-being and execution of the  
12       medical regimen as prescribed by a licensed physician,  
podiatrist or dentist or otherwise legally authorized person  
14       acting under the delegated authority of a physician,  
podiatrist or dentist:

16               (1) "Diagnosis" in the context of nursing practice  
18               means that identification of and discrimination between  
physical and psychosocial signs and symptoms essential  
20               to effective execution and management of the nursing  
regimen. This diagnostic privilege is distinct from  
22               medical diagnosis;

24               (2) "Human responses" means those signs, symptoms and  
processes which that denote the individual's health  
26               needs or reaction to an actual or potential health  
problem; and

28               (3) "Treatment" means selection and performance of  
30               those therapeutic measures essential to the effective  
management and execution of the nursing regimen;

32  
34                               **STATEMENT OF FACT**

36       This bill authorizes nurses to execute medical regimens  
ordered by licensed podiatrists. Under current law, nurses may  
38       only execute medical regimens ordered by physicians, dentists or  
their designees.