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*Bill Analysis*  
*Legislative Service Commission*

## **H.B. 189**

125th General Assembly  
(As Reported by H. Health)

**Reps. Blasdel, Schneider, S. Smith, Olman, Harwood, Martin, Fessler,  
Reidelbach, G. Smith, Hoops**

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Authorizes podiatrists to make independent hospital admissions.

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### **CONTENT AND OPERATION**

#### **Current law**

(R.C. 3727.06)

Current law provides that only a member of a hospital's medical staff who is a doctor of medicine or osteopathic medicine or a dentist may independently admit a patient to a hospital. A podiatrist may not independently admit a patient but may co-admit a patient along with a doctor as long as both the podiatrist and the co-admitting doctor are members of the hospital's medical staff.

Current law further provides that all hospital patients must be under the medical supervision of a doctor, except that patients admitted *solely* for the purpose of receiving dental services must be under the supervision of the admitting dentist. If a patient admitted by a dentist needs treatment beyond the scope of dentistry when admitted or after admission, a doctor who is a member of the hospital's medical staff must supervise the non-dental treatment. Further, if a dentist admits a patient, the admitting dentist must make arrangements with a doctor for the doctor to be responsible for the patient's non-dental treatment during the patient's stay in the hospital.

#### **The bill**

The bill authorizes podiatrists to make independent hospital admissions. It treats podiatrists similarly to dentists by providing that (i) a patient admitted *solely* for the purpose of receiving podiatric services must be under the supervision of the admitting podiatrist, (ii) a patient admitted by a podiatrist who needs treatment

beyond the scope of podiatry when admitted or after admission must be supervised by a doctor who is a member of the hospital's medical staff for purposes of the non-podiatric treatment, and (iii) the admitting podiatrist must make arrangements with a doctor for the doctor to be responsible for the patient's non-podiatric treatment during the patient's stay in the hospital. A patient who is not admitted to a hospital solely for podiatric treatment must be supervised by a doctor.

For purposes of simplifying and clarifying the statute, the bill defines "doctor" to mean either a doctor of medicine and surgery or a doctor of osteopathic medicine and "podiatrist" to mean a doctor of podiatric medicine and surgery.

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	05-14-03	p. 476
Reported, H. Health	09-18-03	p. 1075

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