

**2021 Legislative Update
Board of Podiatry Examiners**

The following bills were enacted by the General Assembly during the 2021 legislative session and may impact the Board of Podiatry Examiners and/or the Board of Podiatry Examiners licensees:

Podiatrists May Administer COVID-19 Vaccine, [H.3900/R.22](#)

The Joint Resolution authorizes podiatrists in good standing to administer the COVID-19 vaccine so long as they have completed programs listed in the resolution and administer at a site where physicians, PAs, APRNs, or RNs are present. The joint resolution terminates on September 1, 2021.

Effective Date: April 12, 2021

Prescribers to Offer Prescription for Naloxone Hydrochloride & Provide Overdose Education, [S.571/Act 22](#)

The Act adds Section [44-53-361](#) to require a prescriber to offer a prescription for naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the FDA for the complete or partial reversal of opioid depression to a patient if (a) the prescription is 50 or more MME of an opioid medication per day; (b) the opioid is prescribed concurrently with a prescription for benzodiazepine, or (c) patient presents with certain increased risk for overdose. The Act also requires a prescriber to offer the same patient, or the parent/guardian of a minor patient, overdose education. A prescriber who fails to comply with these requirements may be subject to discipline by the appropriate licensing board.

Effective Date: July 25, 2021

APRNs and PAs May Issue Home Health Orders, [S.503/Act 55](#)

The Act amends Section [40-33-34\(D\)\(2\)](#) and Section [40-47-935\(B\)](#), to authorize advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) and physician assistants (PAs), respectively, to issue home health orders. The Act also amends Section [44-69-20\(5\)\(a\)](#) of the Licensure of Home Health Agencies Act to authorize the same.

Effective Date: July 16, 2021

COVID-19 Liability Protections, [S.147/R.39](#)

The Joint Resolution enacts the South Carolina COVID-19 Liability Safe Harbor Act, providing protection from liability for healthcare providers and businesses that reasonably adheres to public health guidance during the public health emergency. The joint resolution provisions apply to all civil and administrative causes of action that arise between March 13, 2020 and June 30, 2021, or one-hundred eighty days after the final state of emergency is lifted for COVID-19 in this State, whichever is later, and that are based upon facts that occurred during this time period. The joint resolution does not apply to actions or remedies under the SC Workers' Compensation law.

Effective Date: April 28, 2021

Disclaimer: This legislative update is not intended as legal advice. LLR is providing this legislative update to notify licensees of recently enacted legislation that may impact his or her practice area or license. This legislative update provides only a high level overview of enacted legislation and licensees are urged to review the entire enacted legislation, which is available in the hyperlinks above.