

Steven Sepe

From: Ann Marie Metoharakis <annmariemeto@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 8:42 PM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee
Subject: House bill#7029 Chairwoman Susan Donovan House Committee on Health and Human Services

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I am a Registered Nurse who retired in 2024 after 45 years of professional nursing practice.

My career includes :

16 years in gerontology

Hospital experience :

surgical/stepdown,

telemetry/medical stepdown, primary care, woman's health clinic and telephone triage, which includes 28 years at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Providence.

I fully support H7029/S2116, which empowers qualified nurses to perform routine, non-invasive foot care in the home for homebound individuals.

The proposed legislation will meet the needs of many individuals who are incapable of caring for their own feet, and who, due to a myriad of circumstances such as immobility, disease process, transportation, or anxiety and depression, are unable to leave their homes to receive this care.

Nurses are well aware of the risks of podiatric care where comorbidities or vascular issues exist. We are trained to recognize these on assessment and make the proper podiatric referrals.

In routine cases, however, allowing nurses to provide basic care services will meet a real need in our communities, and may even become a welcome relief to podiatrists who no longer have the time or capacity to make routine home visits, and perhaps lead to effective partnerships.

This bill would not only enable a qualified nurse to assess a client's condition, but also to provide a homebound patient with the basic footcare that they require and need.

Doing so may prevent unnecessary pain, reduced mobility, fall risks, fungal infections, and other unwanted outcomes of neglecting foot care and health.

Please give your utmost consideration to the passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ann Marie Metoharakis, RN
East Providence RI