

1990-91

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LEGISLATION  
AMENDMENT BILL 1991

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*(Amendments to be moved by Dr Woods)*

- (1) Clause 23, page 16, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:  
**Interpretation**  
"23. Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting in subsection (1) the following definitions:  
"physiotherapist" means a person registered or licensed to practice physiotherapy under a law of a State or Territory that provides for the registration or licensing of physiotherapists;  
"podiatrist" means a person registered or licensed to practice podiatry under a law of a State or Territory that provides for the registration or licensing of podiatrists;".
- (2) Clause 24, page 16, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:  
**Medicare benefits in relation to R-type diagnostic imaging services**  
"24. Section 16B of the Principal Act is amended:  
(a) by inserting after subparagraph (1)(b)(iii) the following word and subparagraphs:  
'or (iv) subject to subsection (3A), a physiotherapist;'  
'or (v) subject to subsection (3B), a podiatrist;'  
(b) by inserting after subsection (3) the following headings and subsections:

**[Physiotherapists may only request certain services]**

(3A) A request made by a physiotherapist, acting in his or her capacity as a physiotherapist, for an R-type diagnostic imaging service to be rendered is not effective for the purposes of subsection (1) unless it is a request for a service of a kind specified in regulations made for the purposes of this subsection.;

**[Podiatrists may only request certain services]**

(3B) A request made by a podiatrist, acting in his or her capacity as a podiatrist, for an R-type diagnostic imaging service to be rendered is not effective for the purposes of subsection (1) unless it is a request for a service of a kind specified in regulations made for the purposes of this subsection.;

- (c) by omitting from paragraph (9)(a) 'dental practitioner or chiropractor' and substituting 'dental practitioner, chiropractor, physiotherapist or podiatrist';
- (d) by omitting from paragraph (9)(b) 'dental practitioner or chiropractor' and substituting 'dental practitioner, chiropractor, physiotherapist or podiatrist';
- (e) by inserting at the end of subsection (9) the following paragraphs:
  - (e) if the requesting practitioner is a physiotherapist who made the request in his or her capacity as a physiotherapist — the request is not rendered ineffective by the operation of subsection (3A)';
  - (f) if the requesting practitioner is a podiatrist who made the request in his or her capacity as a podiatrist — the request is not rendered ineffective by the operation of subsection (3B)'."

(3) Clause 25, page 16, omit the clause, substitute the following clause:

**Interpretation**

"25. Section 23DZF of the Principal Act is amended by adding ' a physiotherapist and a podiatrist' at the end of the definition of 'practitioner'."

