

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2006 SESSION

CHAPTER 877

An Act to amend and reenact § 8.01-581.18 of the Code of Virginia, relating to adding podiatry to the definition of physician under this section.

[H 1352]

Approved April 19, 2006

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 8.01-581.18 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 8.01-581.18. Delivery of results of laboratory tests and other examinations not authorized by physician; immunity of physician.

A. Whenever a laboratory test or other examination of the physical or mental condition of any person is conducted by or under the supervision of a person other than a physician and not at the request or with the written authorization of a physician, any report of the results of such test or examination shall be provided by the person conducting such test or examination to the person who was the subject of such test or examination. Such report shall state in bold type that it is the responsibility of the recipient to arrange with his physician for consultation and interpretation of the results of such test or examination. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any test or examination conducted under the auspices of the State Department of Health.

B. Any physician shall be immune from civil liability for any failure to review, or to take any action in response to the receipt of, any report of the results of any laboratory test or other examination of the physical or mental condition of any person, which test or examination such physician neither requested nor authorized in writing, unless such report is provided directly to the physician by the person so examined or tested with a request for consultation or by the State Department of Health.

C. As used in this section *and* § 8.01-581.18:1, "physician" means a person licensed to practice medicine, *podiatry*, chiropractic or osteopathy in this Commonwealth pursuant to Chapter 29 (§ 54.1-2900 et seq.) of Title 54.1.