Diabetes is currently one of the ten leading causes of death in Washington. In 2015, \textbf{640,000} people in Washington were estimated to have diabetes, and the disease was estimated to affect the health of 10.9 percent of the adult population.\textsuperscript{1} Not only does diabetes cause detriment to the well-being of Washington’s citizens, but it also puts a tremendous financial burden on the state.

In 2014, \textbf{108,000} non-traumatic lower limb amputations were performed in the US due to diabetes.\textsuperscript{3} The average cost of each amputation is \$70,434.\textsuperscript{4} Research shows yearly visits to a podiatrist by those with diabetes can decrease the risk of lower limb amputation by up to 80 percent.\textsuperscript{5} Washington projects a total of \textbf{975,400} people living with diabetes at a cost of \textbf{\$9.6 billion} by 2025.\textsuperscript{6} For more information, visit \url{www.apma.org/diabetes}.

\begin{itemize}
\item While diabetes is the leading cause of non-traumatic lower limb amputation, these amputations can be prevented.
\item Every \$1 invested in care by a podiatrist results in \$27 to \$51 of savings for the health-care system among patients with commercial insurance. For Medicare-eligible patients, every \$1 invested in care by a podiatrist results in \$9 to \$13 of savings.\textsuperscript{7}
\item The inclusion of care provided by podiatrists for those with diabetes alone will save the health-care system \$3.5 billion per year.\textsuperscript{7}
\item As a cost-cutting measure, Arizona removed patient access to DPMs in June 2010. However, after data indicated Arizona actually increased Medicaid spending by \$48 for every \$1 in projected savings, Arizona reinstated DPMs in the Medicaid program in 2016.\textsuperscript{8}
\end{itemize}