

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2547

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2017

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

To expand the Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals who may qualify to perform physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue medical certificates required for operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Expanded
3 Trucking Opportunities Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FOR VETERANS OPERATING**
5 **COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.**

6 (a) **QUALIFIED EXAMINERS.**—Section 5403(d)(2) of
7 the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548)
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 “(2) **QUALIFIED EXAMINER.**—The term ‘quali-
10 fied examiner’ means an individual who—

11 “(A) is employed in the Department of
12 Veterans Affairs as an advanced practice nurse,
13 doctor of chiropractic, doctor of medicine, doc-
14 tor of osteopathy, physician assistant, or other
15 medical professional;

16 “(B) is licensed, certified, or registered in
17 a State to perform physical examinations;

18 “(C) is familiar with the standards for,
19 and physical requirements of, an operator re-
20 quired to be medically certified under section
21 31149 of title 49, United States Code; and

22 “(D) has never, with respect to such sec-
23 tion, been found to have acted fraudulently, in-
24 cluding by fraudulently awarding a medical cer-
25 tificate.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5403 of
2 the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548)
3 is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) by striking “physician-approved vet-
6 eran operator,” and inserting “veteran operator
7 approved by a qualified examiner,”; and

8 (B) by striking “qualified physician” and
9 inserting “qualified examiner”;

10 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

11 (A) by striking “the physician” and insert-
12 ing “the examiner”; and

13 (B) by striking “qualified physician” and
14 inserting “qualified examiner”;

15 (3) in subsection (c)—

16 (A) by striking “qualified physicians” and
17 inserting “qualified examiners”; and

18 (B) by striking “such physicians” and in-
19 serting “such examiners”; and

20 (4) in subsection (d)(1)—

21 (A) in the paragraph heading by striking
22 “PHYSICIAN-APPROVED VETERAN OPERATOR”
23 and inserting “VETERAN OPERATOR APPROVED
24 BY A QUALIFIED EXAMINER”; and

1 (B) by striking “physician-approved vet-
2 eran operator” and inserting “veteran operator
3 approved by a qualified examiner”.

4 (c) RULEMAKING.—The amendments made by this
5 section shall be incorporated into any rulemaking pro-
6 ceeding related to section 5403 of the FAST Act (49
7 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548) that is being con-
8 ducted as of the date of enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives June 26, 2017.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

Clerk.