

Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title V, §5508(b), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1554, provided that the amendment made by section 5508(b)(4) is effective as of July 6, 2012, and as if included in Pub. L. 112-141 as enacted.

EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by sections 32202, 32603(e), and 32707(a) effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as a note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, §32102(b), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 778, provided that: "The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [see section 3(a), (b) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as notes under section 101 of Title 23, Highways]."

Amendment by section 32921(b) of Pub. L. 112-141 effective 2 years after the date of enactment of Pub. L. 112-141, see section 32921(c) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as an Effective Date of 2012 Amendment note under section 13902 of this title.

Amendment by section 112002(d) of Pub. L. 112-141 effective July 1, 2012, see section 114001 of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as a note under section 5305 of this title.

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-140 to cease to be effective on July 6, 2012, with text as amended by Pub. L. 112-140 to revert back to read as it did on the day before June 29, 2012, and amendments by Pub. L. 112-141 to be executed as if Pub. L. 112-140 had not been enacted, see section 1(c) of Pub. L. 112-140, set out as a note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 110-244 effective as of the date of enactment of Pub. L. 109-59 (Aug. 10, 2005) and to be treated as included in Pub. L. 109-59 as of that date, and provisions of Pub. L. 109-59, as in effect on the day before June 6, 2008, that are amended by Pub. L. 110-244 to be treated as not enacted, see section 121(b) of Pub. L. 110-244, set out as a note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1995 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 104-88 effective Jan. 1, 1996, see section 2 of Pub. L. 104-88, set out as an Effective Date note under section 1301 of this title.

DEEMED REFERENCES TO CHAPTERS 509 AND 511 OF TITLE 51

General references to "this title" deemed to refer also to chapters 509 and 511 of Title 51, National and Commercial Space Programs, see section 4(d)(8) of Pub. L. 111-314, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

IMPROVING FEDERAL-STATE MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ENFORCEMENT COORDINATION

Pub. L. 117-58, div. B, title III, §23014, Nov. 15, 2021, 135 Stat. 773, provided that:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED STATE.—The term ‘covered State’ means a State that receives Federal funds under the motor carrier safety assistance program established under section 31102 of title 49, United States Code.

“(2) IMMINENT HAZARD.—The term ‘imminent hazard’ has the same meaning as in section 521 of title 49, United States Code.

“(b) REVIEW AND ENFORCEMENT OF STATE OUT-OF-SERVICE ORDERS.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 15, 2021], the Secretary [of Transportation] shall publish in the Federal Register a process under which the Secretary shall review each out-of-service order issued by a covered State in accordance with section 31144(d) of title 49, United States Code, by not later than 30 days after the date on which the out-of-service order is submitted to the Secretary by the covered State.

“(c) REVIEW AND ENFORCEMENT OF STATE IMMINENT HAZARD DETERMINATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a process under which the Secretary shall review imminent hazard determinations made by covered States.

“(2) ENFORCEMENT.—On reviewing an imminent hazard determination under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall pursue enforcement under section 521 of title 49, United States Code, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.”

HIGH RISK CARRIER REVIEWS

Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title V, §5305(a), (b), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1544, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary [of Transportation] shall ensure that a review is completed on each motor carrier that demonstrates through performance data that it poses the highest safety risk. At a minimum, a review shall be conducted whenever a motor carrier is among the highest risk carriers for 4 consecutive months.

“(b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall post on a public Web site a report on the actions the Secretary has taken to comply with this section, including the number of high risk carriers identified and the high risk carriers reviewed.”

Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, §4138, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1745, which required completion of high risk carrier compliance reviews, was repealed by Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title V, §5305(c), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1544.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Pub. L. 106-159, title II, §210(b), Dec. 9, 1999, 113 Stat. 1765, as amended by Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, §32101(c), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 777, provided that: "The Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking to establish minimum requirements for applicant motor carriers, including foreign motor carriers, seeking Federal interstate operating authority to ensure applicant carriers are knowledgeable about applicable Federal motor carrier safety standards. As part of that rulemaking, the Secretary shall establish a proficiency examination for applicant motor carriers as well as other requirements to ensure such applicants understand applicable safety regulations, commercial regulations, and provisions of subpart H of part 37 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulations before being granted operating authority."

§ 31145. Coordination of Governmental activities and paperwork

The Secretary of Transportation shall coordinate the activities of departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States Government to ensure adequate protection of the safety and health of operators of commercial motor vehicles. The Secretary shall attempt to minimize paperwork burdens to ensure maximum coordination and to avoid overlap and the imposition of unreasonable burdens on persons subject to regulations under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1012.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
31145	49 App.:2517(b).	Oct. 30, 1984, Pub. L. 98-554, §220(b), 98 Stat. 2846.

§ 31146. Relationship to other laws

Except as provided in section 31136(b) of this title, this subchapter and the regulations prescribed under this subchapter do not affect chapter 51 of this title or a regulation prescribed under chapter 51.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1013.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
31146	49 App.:2518.	Oct. 30, 1984, Pub. L. 98-554, § 221, 98 Stat. 2846.

§ 31147. Limitations on authority

(a) **TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.**—This subchapter does not authorize the Secretary of Transportation to prescribe traffic safety regulations or preempt State traffic regulations. However, the Secretary may prescribe traffic regulations to the extent their subject matter was regulated under parts 390-399 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, on October 30, 1984.

(b) **REGULATING THE MANUFACTURING OF VEHICLES.**—This subchapter does not authorize the Secretary to regulate the manufacture of commercial motor vehicles for any purpose, including fuel economy, safety, or emission control.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1013.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
31147(a)	49 App.:2519(a).	Oct. 30, 1984, Pub. L. 98-554, § 229, 98 Stat. 2853.
31147(b)	49 App.:2519(b).	

In subsection (a), the word “prescribe” is substituted for “establish or maintain” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

§ 31148. Certified motor carrier safety auditors

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of Transportation shall complete a rulemaking to improve training and provide for the certification of motor carrier safety auditors, including private contractors, to conduct safety inspection audits and reviews described in subsection (b).

(b) **CERTIFIED INSPECTION AUDIT REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 1 year after completion of the rulemaking required by subsection (a), any safety inspection audit or review required by, or based on the authority of, this chapter or chapter 5, 313, or 315 of this title and performed after December 31, 2002, shall be conducted by—

(1) a motor carrier safety auditor certified under subsection (a); or

(2) a Federal or State employee who, on the date of the enactment of this section, was qualified to perform such an audit or review.

(c) **EXTENSION.**—If the Secretary determines that subsection (b) cannot be implemented within the 1-year period established by that subsection and notifies the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives of the determination and the reasons therefor, the Secretary may extend the deadline for compliance with subsection (b) by not more than 12 months.

(d) **APPLICATION WITH OTHER AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may not delegate the Secretary’s authority to private contractors to issue ratings or operating authority, and nothing in this section authorizes any private contractor to issue ratings or operating authority.

(e) **OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITY.**—The Secretary shall have authority over any motor carrier safety auditor certified under subsection (a), including the authority to decertify a motor carrier safety auditor.

(Added Pub. L. 106-159, title II, §211(a), Dec. 9, 1999, 113 Stat. 1765.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of this section, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(2), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 106-159, which was approved Dec. 9, 1999.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

INSPECTOR STANDARDS

Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title V, §5205, Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1537, provided that: “Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 4, 2015], the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration shall revise the regulations under part 385 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, as necessary, to incorporate by reference the certification standards for roadside inspectors issued by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance.”

§ 31149. Medical program

(a) **MEDICAL REVIEW BOARD.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTION.**—The Secretary of Transportation shall establish a Medical Review Board to provide the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration with medical advice and recommendations on medical standards and guidelines for the physical qualifications of operators of commercial motor vehicles, medical examiner education, and medical research.

(2) **COMPOSITION.**—The Medical Review Board shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall consist of 5 members selected from medical institutions and private practice. The membership shall reflect expertise in a variety of medical specialties relevant to the driver fitness requirements of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

(b) **CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER.**—The Secretary shall appoint a chief medical examiner who shall be an employee of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and who shall hold a position under section 3104 of title 5, United States Code, relating to employment of specially qualified scientific and professional personnel, and shall be paid under section 5376 of title 5, United States Code, relating to pay for certain senior-level positions.

(c) **MEDICAL STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, with the advice of the Medical Review Board and the chief medical examiner, shall—

(A) establish, review, and revise—

(i) medical standards for operators of commercial motor vehicles that will ensure that the physical condition of opera-