

128 Stat. 1844; Pub. L. 114-21, title I, §1102(g), May 29, 2015, 129 Stat. 222; Pub. L. 114-41, title I, §1102(g), July 31, 2015, 129 Stat. 449; Pub. L. 114-73, title I, §1102(g), Oct. 29, 2015, 129 Stat. 572; Pub. L. 114-87, title I, §1102(g), Nov. 20, 2015, 129 Stat. 681; Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title V, §5105(e), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1529, which established a grant program for persons to train operators of commercial motor vehicles, was repealed by Pub. L. 114-94, div. A, title V, §5101(e)(7), Dec. 4, 2015, 129 Stat. 1525, effective Oct. 1, 2016.

CDL TASK FORCE

Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, §4135, Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1744, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary [of Transportation] shall convene a task force to study and address current impediments and foreseeable challenges to the commercial driver’s license program’s effectiveness and measures needed to realize the full safety potential of the commercial driver’s license program, including such issues as—

- “(1) State enforcement practices;
- “(2) operational procedures to detect and deter fraud;
- “(3) needed improvements for seamless information sharing between States;
- “(4) effective methods for accurately sharing electronic data between States;
- “(5) adequate proof of citizenship;
- “(6) updated technology; and
- “(7) timely notification from judicial bodies concerning traffic and criminal convictions of commercial driver’s license holders.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—Members of the task force should include State motor vehicle administrators, organizations representing government agencies or officials, members of the Judicial Conference, representatives of the trucking industry, representatives of labor organizations, safety advocates, and other significant stakeholders.

“(c) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Aug. 10, 2005], the Secretary, on behalf of the task force, shall complete a report of the task forces [sic] findings and recommendations for legislative, regulatory, and enforcement changes to improve the commercial drivers [sic] license program and submit such the [sic] report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.

“(d) FUNDING.—From the funds amounts made available by section 4101(c)(1) [119 Stat. 1715], \$200,000 shall be available for each of fiscal years 2006 and 2007 to carry out this section.”

EXEMPTIONS FROM REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES AND THEIR OPERATORS

For provisions relating to waiver of requirements of this chapter with respect to vehicles used for snow or ice removal, see section 229(a)(5) of Pub. L. 106-159, set out as a note under section 31136 of this title.

§ 31302. Commercial driver’s license requirement

No individual shall operate a commercial motor vehicle without a valid commercial driver’s license issued in accordance with section 31308. An individual operating a commercial motor vehicle may have only one driver’s license at any time and may have only one learner’s permit at any time.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1015; Pub. L. 105-178, title IV, §4011(b)(1), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 407; Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, §4122(1), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1734.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31302 | 49 App.:2701. | Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, §12002, 100 Stat. 3207-170. |

The words “Effective July 1, 1987” are omitted as executed. The words after “issued a driver’s license” are omitted as expired.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2005—Pub. L. 109-59 inserted “and may have only one learner’s permit at any time” before period at end.

1998—Pub. L. 105-178 amended section catchline and text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “An individual operating a commercial motor vehicle may have only one driver’s license at any time, except during the 10-day period beginning on the date the individual is issued a driver’s license.”

§ 31303. Notification requirements

(a) VIOLATIONS.—An individual operating a commercial motor vehicle, having a driver’s license issued by a State, and violating a State or local law on motor vehicle traffic control (except a parking violation) shall notify the individual’s employer of the violation. If the violation occurred in a State other than the issuing State, the individual also shall notify a State official designated by the issuing State. The notifications required by this subsection shall be made not later than 30 days after the date the individual is found to have committed the violation.

(b) REVOCATIONS, SUSPENSIONS, AND CANCELLATIONS.—An employee who has a driver’s license revoked, suspended, or canceled by a State, who loses the right to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a State for any period, or who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for any period, shall notify the employee’s employer of the action not later than 30 days after the date of the action.

(c) PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, an individual applying for employment as an operator of a commercial motor vehicle shall notify the prospective employer, at the time of the application, of any previous employment as an operator of a commercial motor vehicle.

(2) The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe by regulation the period for which notice of previous employment must be given under paragraph (1) of this subsection. However, the period may not be less than the 10-year period ending on the date of the application.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1016.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

| <i>Revised Section</i> | <i>Source (U.S. Code)</i> | <i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 31303 | 49 App.:2702. | Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, §12003, 100 Stat. 3207-171. |

In this section, the words “Effective July 1, 1987” are omitted as executed.

In subsection (c)(1), the words “operates a commercial motor vehicle and” and “with an employer” are omitted as surplus.

§ 31304. Employer responsibilities

(a) IN GENERAL.—An employer may not allow an employee to operate a commercial motor vehicle in the United States during a period that the employer knows or should reasonably know that the employee—

- (1) has a driver's license revoked, suspended, or canceled by a State, has lost the right to operate a commercial motor vehicle in a State, or has been disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle; or
- (2) has more than one driver's license (except as allowed under section 31302 of this title).

(b) DRIVER VIOLATION RECORDS.—

(1) PERIODIC REVIEW.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), an employer shall ascertain the driving record of each driver it employs—

(A) by making an inquiry at least once every 12 months to the appropriate State agency in which the driver held or holds a commercial driver's license or permit during such time period;

(B) by receiving occurrence-based reports of changes in the status of a driver's record from 1 or more driver record notification systems that meet minimum standards issued by the Secretary; or

(C) by a combination of inquiries to States and reports from driver record notification systems.

(2) RECORD KEEPING.—A copy of the reports received under paragraph (1) shall be maintained in the driver's qualification file.

(3) EXCEPTIONS TO RECORD REVIEW REQUIREMENT.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a driver employed by an employer who, in any 7-day period, is employed or used as a driver by more than 1 employer—

(A) if the employer obtains the driver's identification number, type, and issuing State of the driver's commercial motor vehicle license; or

(B) if the information described in subparagraph (A) is furnished by another employer and the employer that regularly employs the driver meets the other requirements under this section.

(4) DRIVER RECORD NOTIFICATION SYSTEM DEFINED.—In this section, the term "driver record notification system" means a system that automatically furnishes an employer with a report, generated by the appropriate agency of a State, on the change in the status of an employee's driver's license due to a conviction for a moving violation, a failure to appear, an accident, driver's license suspension, driver's license revocation, or any other action taken against the driving privilege.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1016; Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, §§ 32303(a), 32307, July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 790, 794.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Table with 3 columns: Revised Section, Source (U.S. Code), Source (Statutes at Large). Row 1: 31304, 49 App.:2703, Oct. 27, 1986, Pub. L. 99-570, § 12004, 100 Stat. 3207-171.

In this section, before clause (1), the words "Effective July 1, 1987" are omitted as executed. The words "per-

mit, or authorize" are omitted as surplus. Clause (2) is substituted for 49 App.:2703(2) to eliminate unnecessary words.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2012—Pub. L. 112-141, §32303(a), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112-141, §32307, in introductory provisions, struck out "knowingly" before "allow an employee" and substituted "that the employer knows or should reasonably know that" for "in which".

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-141 effective Oct. 1, 2012, see section 3(a) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as an Effective and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.

STANDARDS FOR DRIVER RECORD NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, §32303(b), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 791, provided that: "Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [see section 3(a), (b) of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as Effective and Termination Dates of 2012 Amendment notes under section 101 of Title 23, Highways], the Secretary [of Transportation] shall issue minimum standards for driver notification systems, including standards for the accuracy, consistency, and completeness of the information provided."

§ 31305. General driver fitness, testing, and training

(a) MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR TESTING AND FITNESS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall prescribe regulations on minimum standards for testing and ensuring the fitness of an individual operating a commercial motor vehicle. The regulations—

(1) shall prescribe minimum standards for written and driving tests of an individual operating a commercial motor vehicle;

(2) shall require an individual who operates or will operate a commercial motor vehicle to take a driving test in a vehicle representative of the type of vehicle the individual operates or will operate;

(3) shall prescribe minimum testing standards for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle and may prescribe different minimum testing standards for different classes of commercial motor vehicles;

(4) shall ensure that an individual taking the tests has a working knowledge of—

- (A) regulations on the safe operation of a commercial motor vehicle prescribed by the Secretary and contained in title 49, Code of Federal Regulations; and
- (B) safety systems of the vehicle;

(5) shall ensure that an individual who operates or will operate a commercial motor vehicle carrying a hazardous material—

(A) is qualified to operate the vehicle under regulations on motor vehicle transportation of hazardous material prescribed under chapter 51 of this title;

(B) has a working knowledge of—

- (i) those regulations;
- (ii) the handling of hazardous material;