

(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.)

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.

§ 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-

tors of commercial motor vehicles is adequate to enable them to operate the vehicles safely; and

(ii) requirements for periodic physical examinations of such operators performed by medical examiners who have, at a minimum, self-certified that they have completed training in physical and medical examination standards and are listed on a national registry maintained by the Department of Transportation;

(B) require each such operator to have a current valid medical certificate;

(C) conduct periodic reviews of a select number of medical examiners on the national registry to ensure that proper examinations of such operators are being conducted;

(D) not later than 1 year after enactment of the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Enhancement Act of 2012, develop requirements for a medical examiner to be listed in the national registry under this section, including—

(i) the completion of specific courses and materials;

(ii) certification, including, at a minimum, self-certification, if the Secretary determines that self-certification is necessary for sufficient participation in the national registry, to verify that a medical examiner completed specific training, including refresher courses, that the Secretary determines necessary to be listed in the national registry;

(iii) an examination that requires a passing grade; and

(iv) demonstration of a medical examiner's willingness to meet the reporting requirements established by the Secretary;

(E) require medical examiners to transmit the name of the applicant and numerical identifier, as determined by the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, for any completed medical examination report required under section 391.43 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, electronically to the chief medical examiner on monthly basis; and

(F) periodically review a representative sample of the medical examination reports associated with the name and numerical identifiers of applicants transmitted under subparagraph (E) for errors, omissions, or other indications of improper certification.

(2) MONITORING PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary shall investigate patterns of errors or improper certification by a medical examiner. If the Secretary finds that a medical examiner has issued a medical certificate to an operator of a commercial motor vehicle who fails to meet the applicable standards at the time of the examination or that a medical examiner has falsely claimed to have completed training in physical and medical examination standards as required by this section, the Secretary may remove such medical examiner from the registry and may void the medical certificate of the applicant or holder.

(d) NATIONAL REGISTRY OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.—The Secretary, acting through the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration—

(1) shall establish and maintain a current national registry of medical examiners who are qualified to perform examinations and issue medical certificates;

(2) shall remove from the registry the name of any medical examiner that fails to meet or maintain the qualifications established by the Secretary for being listed in the registry or otherwise does not meet the requirements of this section or regulation issued under this section;

(3) shall accept as valid only medical certificates issued by persons on the national registry of medical examiners; and

(4) may make participation of medical examiners in the national registry voluntary if such a change will enhance the safety of operators of commercial motor vehicles.

(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(Added Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, § 4116(a), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1726; amended Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, § 32302(b), (c)(1), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 789.)

AMENDMENT OF SUBSECTION (c)(1)

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, § 32302(c)(1), (2)(B), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 789, provided that, effective on the date the oversight policies and procedures are established pursuant to section 32302(c)(2)(A) of Pub. L. 112-141 (set out as a note below), subsection (c)(1) of this section is amended as follows:

(1) by amending subparagraph (E) to read as follows:

“(E) require medical examiners to transmit electronically, on a monthly basis, the name of the applicant, a numerical identifier, and additional information contained on the medical examiner’s certificate for any completed medical examination report required under section 391.43 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, to the chief medical examiner;”;

(2) in subparagraph (F), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

(G) annually review the implementation of commercial driver’s license requirements by not fewer than 10 States to assess the accuracy, validity, and timeliness of—

(i) the submission of physical examination reports and medical certificates to State licensing agencies; and

(ii) the processing of the submissions by State licensing agencies.

See 2012 Amendment notes below.

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Enhancement Act of 2012, referred to in subsec. (c)(1)(D), is Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 776. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title of 2012 Amendment note set out under section 30101 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (c)(1)(D). Pub. L. 112-141, § 32302(b), amended subpar. (D) generally. Prior to amendment,

subpar. (D) read as follows: “develop, as appropriate, specific courses and materials for medical examiners listed in the national registry established under this section, and require those medical examiners to, at a minimum, self-certify that they have completed specific training, including refresher courses, to be listed in the registry;”.

Subsec. (c)(1)(E). Pub. L. 112-141, § 32302(c)(1)(A), amended subpar. (E) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (E) read as follows: “require medical examiners to transmit the name of the applicant and numerical identifier, as determined by the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, for any completed medical examination report required under section 391.43 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, electronically to the chief medical examiner on monthly basis; and”.

Subsec. (c)(1)(G). Pub. L. 112-141, § 32302(c)(1)(B), (C), added subpar. (G).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 32302(b) of 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.

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, § 32302(c)(2)(B), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 789, provided that: “The amendments made by section 32303(c)(1) [probably should be “32302(c)(1)”] of this Act [amending this section] shall take effect on the date the oversight policies and procedures are established pursuant to subparagraph (A).”

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 109-59, title IV, § 4116(f), Aug. 10, 2005, 119 Stat. 1728, as amended by Pub. L. 110-244, title III, § 301(d), June 6, 2008, 122 Stat. 1616, provided that: “The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) [enacting this section and amending section 31136 of this title] shall take effect on the 365th day following the date of enactment of this Act [Aug. 10, 2005].”

[Amendment by Pub. L. 110-244 to section 4116(f) of Pub. L. 109-59, set out above, 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 an Effective Date of 2008 note under section 101 of Title 23, Highways.]

DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL REGISTRY OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, § 32302(a), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 788, 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 establish a national registry of medical examiners in accordance with section 31149(d)(1) of title 49, United States Code.”

INTERNAL OVERSIGHT POLICY

Pub. L. 112-141, div. C, title II, § 32302(c)(2)(A), July 6, 2012, 126 Stat. 789, provided that: “Not later than 2 years 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 establish an oversight policy and procedure to carry out section 31149(c)(1)(G) of title 49, United States Code, as added by section 32302(c)(1) of this Act.”

§ 31150. Safety performance history screening

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation shall provide persons conducting pre-