

effect on the enactment of subsection (d) of section 3102 [now 31502] of title 49, United States Code, which subsection (d) was added to such section by section 206(h) of the Motor Carrier Safety Act of 1984 [Pub. L. 98-554] on October 30, 1984.”

CONTINUED APPLICATION OF SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

Pub. L. 105-178, title IV, §4012(b), June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 409, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] may not be construed—

“(A) to exempt any utility service vehicle from compliance with any applicable provision of law relating to vehicle mechanical safety, maintenance requirements, or inspections; or

“(B) to exempt any driver of a utility service vehicle from any applicable provision of law (including any regulation) established for the issuance, maintenance, or periodic renewal of a commercial driver’s license for that driver.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the following definitions apply:

“(A) COMMERCIAL DRIVER’S LICENSE.—The term ‘commercial driver’s license’ has the meaning that term has under section 31301 of title 49, United States Code.

“(B) DRIVER OF A UTILITY SERVICE VEHICLE.—The term ‘driver of a utility service vehicle’ has the meaning that term has under section 31502(e)(2) of such title [probably should be section 31502(e)(4)(A) of such title].

“(C) REGULATION.—The term ‘regulation’ has the meaning that term has under section 31132 of such title.

“(D) UTILITY SERVICE VEHICLE.—The term ‘utility service vehicle’ has the meaning that term has under section 345(e)(6) of the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 [Pub. L. 104-59] (49 U.S.C. 31136 note; 109 Stat. 614-615).”

STUDY OF ADEQUACY OF PARKING FACILITIES

Pub. L. 105-178, title IV, §4027, June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 417, directed the Secretary to conduct a study on the adequacy of parking facilities at commercial truck stops and to transmit a report on the study and authorized appropriations for fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001.

EXEMPTIONS FROM REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES AND THEIR OPERATORS

For provisions relating to exemptions from regulations prescribed under this section as to maximum driving and on-duty time for drivers used by motor carriers, see section 345 of Pub. L. 104-59, set out as a note under section 31136 of this title.

§ 31503. Research, investigation, and testing

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Transportation may investigate and report on the need for regulation by the United States Government of sizes, weight, and combinations of motor vehicles and qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees of a motor carrier subject to subchapter I of chapter 135 of this title and a motor private carrier. The Secretary shall use the services of each department, agency, or instrumentality of the Government and each organization of motor carriers having special knowledge of a matter being investigated.

(b) USE OF SERVICES.—In carrying out this chapter, the Secretary may use the services of a department, agency, or instrumentality of the Government having special knowledge about safety, to conduct scientific and technical re-

search, investigation, and testing when necessary to promote safety of operation and equipment of motor vehicles. The Secretary may reimburse the department, agency, or instrumentality for the services provided.

(Pub. L. 97-449, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2439, §3103; renumbered §31503 and amended Pub. L. 103-272, §1(c), (e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 745, 1030; Pub. L. 104-88, title III, §308(k)(4), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 948.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
3103(a)	49:325.	Feb. 4, 1887, ch. 104, 24 Stat. 379, §226; added Aug. 9, 1935, ch. 498, 49 Stat. 566; Sept. 18, 1940, ch. 722, §26(b), 54 Stat. 929.
	49:1655(e)(6)(B).	Oct. 15, 1966, Pub. L. 89-670, §6(e)(6)(B), (C), 80 Stat. 939.
3103(b)	49:304(a)(5).	Feb. 4, 1887, ch. 104, 24 Stat. 379, §204(a)(5); added Aug. 9, 1935, ch. 498, 49 Stat. 546.
	49:1655(e)(6)(C).	

In subsection (a), the words “subject to subchapter II of chapter 105 of this title” are added for clarity. The word “services” is substituted for “assistance” for consistency. The words “department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government” are substituted for “departments or bureaus of the Government” for consistency.

In subsection (b), the words “In carrying out this chapter” are substituted for “For the purpose of carrying out the provisions pertaining to safety” to eliminate unnecessary words. The words “department . . . or instrumentality” are added for consistency. The word “reimburse” is substituted for “transfer . . . such funds” for consistency. The words “as may be necessary and available to make this provision effective” are omitted as unnecessary because of the restatement.

AMENDMENTS

1995—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-88 substituted “subchapter I of chapter 135” for “subchapter II of chapter 105”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-272 renumbered section 3103 of this title as this section and amended it generally, restating it without substantive change.

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 701 of this title.

§ 31504. Identification of motor vehicles

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Transportation may—

(1) issue and require the display of an identification plate on a motor vehicle used in transportation provided by a motor private carrier and a motor carrier of migrant workers subject to section 31502(c) of this title, except a motor contract carrier; and

(2) require each of those motor private carriers and motor carriers of migrant workers to pay the reasonable cost of the plate.

(b) LIMITATION.—A motor private carrier or a motor carrier of migrant workers may use an identification plate only as authorized by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 97-449, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2439, §3104; renumbered §31504 and amended Pub. L. 103-272, §1(c), (e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 745, 1030.)