

Sec.	
31502.	Requirements for qualifications, hours of service, safety, and equipment standards.
31503.	Research, investigation, and testing.
31504.	Identification of motor vehicles.

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Chapter 315 is a restatement of existing chapter 31 of title 49, United States Code, that is redesignated as chapter 315 by section 1(c) of the bill.

§ 31501. Definitions

In this chapter—

(1) “migrant worker” means an individual going to or from employment in agriculture as provided under section 3121(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 3121(g)) or section 3(f) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203(f)).

(2) “motor carrier”, “motor common carrier”, “motor private carrier”, “motor vehicle”, and “United States” have the same meanings given those terms in section 13102 of this title.

(3) “motor carrier of migrant workers”—

(A) means a person (except a motor common carrier) providing transportation referred to in section 13501 of this title by a motor vehicle (except a passenger automobile or station wagon) for at least 3 migrant workers at a time to or from their employment; but

(B) does not include a migrant worker providing transportation for migrant workers and their immediate families.

(Pub. L. 97-449, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2438, §3101; renumbered §31501 and amended Pub. L. 103-272, §1(c), (e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 745, 1029; Pub. L. 103-429, §6(26), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4380; Pub. L. 104-88, title III, §308(k)(1), (2), Dec. 29, 1995, 109 Stat. 947, 948.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES
PUB. L. 97-449

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
3101(1)	49:303(a)(23).	Feb. 4, 1887, ch. 104, 24 Stat. 397, §203(a)(22), (23); added Aug. 3, 1956, ch. 905, §1, 70 Stat. 958.
3101(2)	(no source).	
3101(3)	49:303(a)(22).	

In clause (1), the words “going to or from” are substituted for “proceeding to or returning from” for clarity.

Clause (2) is included to ensure that the identical definitions that are relevant are used without repeating them. The source provisions for the quoted definitions are found in the revision notes for section 10102 of the revised title.

In clause (3), the words “including any ‘contract common carrier by motor vehicle’ ” are omitted as covered by the definition of “motor carrier”. The words “referred to in section 10521(a) of this title” are substituted for “in interstate or foreign commerce” for clarity and consistency in the revised title. The word “except” is substituted for “but not including” for clarity. The words “at least” are substituted for “or more”, and the words “but the term does not include” are substituted for “except”, for consistency.

PUB. L. 103-429

This amends 49:31501(1) to correct an erroneous cross-reference.

AMENDMENTS

1995—Par. (2). Pub. L. 104-88, §308(k)(1), substituted “13102” for “10102”.

Par. (3)(A). Pub. L. 104-88, §308(k)(2), substituted “13501” for “10521(a)”.

1994—Pub. L. 103-272 renumbered section 3101 of this title as this section and amended it generally, restating it without substantive change.

Par. (1). Pub. L. 103-429 substituted “section 3(f)” for “section 203(f)”.

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.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-429 effective July 5, 1994, see section 9 of Pub. L. 103-429, set out as a note under section 321 of this title.

EXEMPTIONS FROM REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CHAPTER
FOR CERTAIN FARM VEHICLES

For provisions relating to exemptions from certain requirements of this chapter with respect to certain farm vehicles and individuals operating those vehicles, see section 32934 of Pub. L. 112-141, set out as a note under section 31136 of this title.

§ 31502. Requirements for qualifications, hours of service, safety, and equipment standards

(a) APPLICATION.—This section applies to transportation—

(1) described in sections 13501 and 13502 of this title; and

(2) to the extent the transportation is in the United States and is between places in a foreign country, or between a place in a foreign country and a place in another foreign country.

(b) MOTOR CARRIER AND PRIVATE MOTOR CARRIER REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of Transportation may prescribe requirements for—

(1) qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees of, and safety of operation and equipment of, a motor carrier; and

(2) qualifications and maximum hours of service of employees of, and standards of equipment of, a motor private carrier, when needed to promote safety of operation.

(c) MIGRANT WORKER MOTOR CARRIER REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may prescribe requirements for the comfort of passengers, qualifications and maximum hours of service of operators, and safety of operation and equipment of a motor carrier of migrant workers. The requirements only apply to a carrier transporting a migrant worker—

(1) at least 75 miles; and

(2) across the boundary of a State, territory, or possession of the United States.

(d) CONSIDERATIONS.—Before prescribing or revising any requirement under this section, the Secretary shall consider the costs and benefits of the requirement.

(e) EXCEPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, regulations issued under this section or section 31136 regarding—

(A) maximum driving and on-duty times applicable to operators of commercial motor vehicles,