

WORKING DRAFT

SENATE FILE NO. _____

Commercial driver's license-changes.

Sponsored by: Joint Transportation and Highways Interim
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to commercial driver's licenses; amending
2 requirements for commercial driver's licenses as specified
3 to comply with federal requirements; establishing a new
4 classification for commercial driver's licenses; specifying
5 grounds for disqualification or cancellation of a
6 commercial driver's license; providing penalties; amending
7 definitions; and providing for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 31-7-102(a)(xliv)(B) and by creating
12 new subparagraphs (D) through (J), 31-7-125,
13 31-7-303(a)(intro), 31-7-304(a)(ii) by creating a new
14 subparagraph (G) and by creating a new subsection (f),
15 31-7-305(a)(i) through (v) and by creating new paragraphs

1 (vi) and (vii), (e), (f) and by creating a new subsection
 2 (h), by renumbering (h) through (k) as (j) through (m) and
 3 by creating a new subsection (n), 31-7-310 and 31-7-313 are
 4 amended to read:

5

6 **31-7-102. Definitions.**

7

8 (a) As used in this act:

9

10 (xli) "Serious traffic violation" means:

11

12 (B) Reckless driving as defined by W.S.
 13 31-5-229; ~~or~~

14

15 (D) Improper or erratic lane changes;

16

17 (E) Following the vehicle ahead too
 18 closely;

19

20 (F) A violation of state or local law
 21 relating to motor vehicle traffic control, arising in
 22 connection with a fatal accident;

23

1 (G) Driving a commercial vehicle without
2 obtaining a commercial driver's license;

3
4 (H) Driving a commercial motor vehicle
5 without a commercial driver's license in the driver's
6 possession. An individual shall not be guilty of a
7 violation of this subparagraph if the individual provides
8 proof prior to or at a court or administrative hearing
9 establishing that the individual held a valid commercial
10 driver's license on the date of the citation; or

11
12 (J) Driving a commercial motor vehicle
13 without the proper class of commercial driver's license or
14 endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated
15 or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported.

16
17 **31-7-125. Suspension or revocation upon notice of**
18 **conviction in another state or in federal court.**

19
20 The division shall suspend or revoke the license of any
21 resident of this state or the privilege of a nonresident to
22 drive a motor vehicle in this state upon receiving notice
23 of the conviction of the person in another state or in a
24 federal court of an offense which, if committed in this

1 state, would be grounds for the suspension, ~~or~~ revocation
2 or disqualification of the license of a driver under W.S.
3 6-2-106, 31-5-233, 31-7-127, 31-7-128, ~~or~~ 31-7-134 or 31-7-
4 305 or upon receiving notice of a violation of a statute
5 which, if committed in this state, would be grounds for
6 suspension under the Motor Vehicle Safety-Responsibility
7 Act [§§ 31-9-101 through 31-9-414]. The division may
8 suspend the license of any resident of the state or the
9 privilege of a nonresident to drive a motor vehicle in this
10 state upon receiving notice of the conviction of the person
11 in another state or federal court of an offense which, if
12 committed in this state, would be grounds for the
13 suspension of the license of a driver under W.S. 31-7-129.

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16 **31-7-303. Exemptions.**

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18 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act,
19 the department shall by rule and regulation grant an
20 exemption from ~~compliance with~~ the licensing requirements
21 of this ~~act~~ article or with any rule or regulation adopted
22 pursuant to the licensing requirements of this ~~act~~ article
23 to a class of persons or class of commercial motor vehicles
24 exempted by the secretary of the United States department

1 of transportation pursuant to title 49 ~~U.S.C. § 10526~~ of
2 the United States Code including:

3

4 **31-7-304. Issuance; classifications and endorsements.**

5

6 (a) Commercial driver's licenses may be issued with
7 the following classifications and endorsements. The holder
8 of a valid commercial driver's license may drive all
9 vehicles in the class for which that license is issued and
10 all lesser classes of vehicles except motorcycles and
11 vehicles which require a separate endorsement, unless the
12 proper endorsement appears on the license:

13

14 (ii) The following driver's license endorsements
15 are special authorizations permitting the driver to operate
16 certain types of motor vehicles or transport certain types
17 of cargo if the endorsement is displayed on the driver's
18 license:

19

20 (G) "S" authorizes the driver to operate a
21 bus or any motor vehicle as defined in W.S. 31-7-
22 102(a)(iii) used for the transportation of pre-primary,
23 primary or secondary school students from home to school,
24 school to home or to and from school sponsored events.

1

2 (f) Before issuing or renewing a commercial driver's
3 license, the department shall require that the applicant
4 present a current federal medical qualification
5 certificate.

6

7 **31-7-305. Disqualification and cancellation; right to**
8 **a hearing.**

9

10 (a) Any person is disqualified from driving a
11 commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than one
12 (1) year if convicted of a first violation arising from
13 separate incidents of:

14

15 (i) Driving or in actual physical control of a
16 ~~commercial~~ motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or
17 a controlled substance to a degree which renders him
18 incapable of safely driving a motor vehicle;

19

20 (iii) Knowingly and willfully leaving the scene
21 of an accident involving a ~~commercial~~ motor vehicle driven
22 by the person;

23

1 (iv) Using a ~~commercial~~ motor vehicle in the
2 commission of any felony; ~~or~~

3

4 (v) Refusal to submit to a test to determine the
5 driver's alcohol concentration while driving or in actual
6 physical control of a ~~commercial~~ motor vehicle; ~~or~~

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8 (vi) Driving a commercial vehicle when, as a
9 result of prior convictions, the driver's driving
10 privileges are canceled, suspended or revoked, or the
11 driver is disqualified from operating a commercial motor
12 vehicle; or

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14 (vii) Causing a fatality through the negligent
15 operation of a commercial vehicle, including but not
16 limited to homicide by motor vehicle, negligent homicide,
17 motor vehicle manslaughter or a similar local ordinance or
18 similar state law from another jurisdiction.

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20 (e) A person may be disqualified from driving a
21 commercial motor vehicle for life who uses a ~~commercial~~
22 motor vehicle in the commission of any felony involving the
23 manufacture, distribution or dispensing of a controlled

1 substance, or possession with intent to manufacture,
2 distribute or dispense a controlled substance.

3

4 (f) A person may be disqualified from driving a
5 commercial motor vehicle for a period of not less than
6 sixty (60) days if convicted of two (2) serious traffic
7 violations or one hundred twenty (120) days if convicted of
8 three (3) serious traffic violations, committed in a
9 ~~commercial~~motor vehicle arising from separate incidents
10 occurring within a three (3) year period.

11

12 (h) For offenses specified in this subsection
13 relating to a railroad-highway crossing, a person who
14 holds, or is required to have, a commercial driver's
15 license is disqualified from driving a commercial motor
16 vehicle for a period of sixty (60) days if convicted of a
17 first offense, for a period of one hundred twenty (120)
18 days if convicted of second offense under this subsection
19 in a separate incident within a three (3) year period, or
20 for a period of one (1) year for a third or subsequent
21 conviction under this subsection within a three (3) year
22 period for driving a commercial motor vehicle in violation
23 of state or local law or regulation pertaining to one (1)
24 of the following offenses at a railroad-highway crossing:

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(i) For drivers who are not required to stop at all railroad-highway crossings, failing to slow down and check that the tracks are clear of an approaching train;

(ii) For drivers who are not required to stop at all railroad-highway crossings, failing to stop before reaching the crossing if the tracks are not clear;

(iii) For drivers who are always required to stop at all railroad-highway crossings, failing to stop before driving onto the crossing;

(iv) For all drivers, failing to have sufficient space to drive completely through the crossing without stopping;

(v) For all drivers, failing to obey a traffic control device or the directions of an enforcement official at the crossing; or

(vi) For all drivers, failing to negotiate a crossing because of insufficient undercarriage clearance.

1 ~~(h)~~(j) After suspending, revoking, disqualifying or
2 canceling a commercial driver license, the state licensing
3 authority shall update its records to reflect that action
4 within ten (10) days. After suspending, revoking,
5 disqualifying or canceling a nonresident commercial
6 driver's privileges, the department shall notify the
7 licensing authority of the state which issued the
8 commercial driver license within ten (10) days.

9

10 ~~(j)~~(k) Before a person is disqualified from driving a
11 commercial motor vehicle under this act, the department
12 shall notify the person and provide an opportunity for a
13 hearing and appeal in accordance with the provisions of
14 W.S. 31-7-105.

15

16 ~~(k)~~(m) A disqualification under this section does not
17 affect the department's authority to suspend, revoke,
18 cancel or deny a license under any other law.

19

20 (n) A discharge or dismissal under W.S. 7-13-301
21 shall not limit the authority of the department to
22 disqualify a driver from operating a commercial vehicle if
23 the discharge or dismissal under W.S. 7-13-301 is from an

1 offense specified in this section and the person has been
2 placed on probation as provided in W.S. 7-13-301(a).

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4 **31-7-310. Rulemaking authority.**

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6 The department may adopt rules and regulations necessary to
7 carry out the provisions of this article and the
8 requirements of the federal motor carrier safety
9 regulations in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations.

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11 **31-7-313. Temporary commercial driver license; fees.**

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13 If a person has his driving privileges suspended or revoked
14 for a violation committed while driving a noncommercial
15 vehicle ~~and the department, hearing officer or court issues~~
16 ~~an order pursuant to W.S. 31-7-105 permitting the person to~~
17 ~~operate a motor vehicle for purposes of the person's~~
18 ~~employment, the department shall issue a temporary~~
19 ~~commercial driver license to be used by the person to drive~~
20 ~~to and from work and to drive a commercial motor vehicle~~
21 ~~only for employment purposes during the period of the~~
22 ~~suspension or revocation.~~ the department shall not issue a
23 temporary commercial driver's license to be used by the
24 person to drive a commercial motor vehicle for the period

1 of the suspension or revocation. The department may issue a
2 noncommercial temporary license as specified in W.S. 31-7-
3 105 if the person is otherwise eligible. The fee for the
4 temporary license shall be the same as for a ~~commercial~~
5 ~~driver~~ noncommercial driver's license under W.S.
6 31-7-113(a).

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8 **Section 2.** W.S. 31-7-102(a)(xli)(C) and
9 31-7-304(a)(ii)(F) are repealed.

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11 **Section 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2004.

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(END)