LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 333

Introduced by Hardin, 48.

Read first time January 16, 2025

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act;
- 2 to amend sections 60-462, 60-4,131, 60-4,131.01, and 60-4,132,
- 3 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024; to provide for
- 4 hazardous materials endorsements for certain persons who haul
- 5 hazardous materials intrastate; to harmonize provisions; and to
- 6 repeal the original sections.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

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Section 1. Section 60-462, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

- 2 2024, is amended to read:
- 3 60-462 Sections 60-462 to 60-4,189 <u>and section 5 of this act</u>shall
- 4 be known and may be cited as the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act.
- 5 Sec. 2. Section 60-4,131, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 6 2024, is amended to read:
- 7 60-4,131 (1) Sections 60-462.01 and 60-4,132 to 60-4,172 and section
- 8 <u>5 of this act</u>shall apply to the operation of any commercial motor
- 9 vehicle.
- 10 (2) For purposes of such sections:
- 11 (a) Disqualification means:
- 12 (i) The suspension, revocation, cancellation, or any other
- 13 withdrawal by a state of a person's privilege to operate a commercial
- 14 motor vehicle;
- 15 (ii) A determination by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
- 16 Administration, under the rules of practice for motor carrier safety
- 17 contained in 49 C.F.R. part 386, that a person is no longer qualified to
- 18 operate a commercial motor vehicle under 49 C.F.R. part 391; or
- 19 (iii) The loss of qualification which automatically follows
- 20 conviction of an offense listed in 49 C.F.R. 383.51;
- 21 (b) Downgrade means the state:
- 22 (i) Allows the driver of a commercial motor vehicle to change his or
- 23 her self-certification to interstate, but operating exclusively in
- 24 transportation or operation excepted from 49 C.F.R. part 391, as provided
- 25 in 49 C.F.R. 390.3(f), 391.2, 391.68, or 398.3;
- 26 (ii) Allows the driver of a commercial motor vehicle to change his
- 27 or her self-certification to intrastate only, if the driver qualifies
- 28 under a state's physical qualification requirements for intrastate only;
- 29 (iii) Allows the driver of a commercial motor vehicle to change his
- 30 or her certification to intrastate, but operating exclusively in
- 31 transportation or operations excepted from all or part of a state driver

- 1 qualification requirement; or
- 2 (iv) Removes the commercial driver's license privilege from the
- 3 operator's license;
- 4 (c) Employee means any operator of a commercial motor vehicle,
- 5 including full-time, regularly employed drivers; casual, intermittent, or
- 6 occasional drivers; and leased drivers and independent, owner-operator
- 7 contractors, while in the course of operating a commercial motor vehicle,
- 8 who are either directly employed by or under lease to an employer;
- 9 (d) Employer means any person, including the United States, a state,
- 10 the District of Columbia, or a political subdivision of a state, that
- owns or leases a commercial motor vehicle or assigns employees to operate
- 12 a commercial motor vehicle;
- 13 (e) Endorsement means an authorization to an individual's CLP-
- 14 commercial learner's permit or commercial driver's license required to
- 15 permit the individual to operate certain types of commercial motor
- 16 vehicles;
- 17 (f) Foreign means outside the fifty United States and the District
- 18 of Columbia;
- 19 (g) Imminent hazard means the existence of a condition relating to
- 20 hazardous material that presents a substantial likelihood that death,
- 21 serious illness, severe personal injury, or a substantial endangerment to
- 22 health, property, or the environment may occur before the reasonably
- 23 foreseeable completion date of a formal proceeding begun to lessen the
- 24 risk of that death, illness, injury, or endangerment;
- 25 (h) Issue and issuance means initial issuance, transfer, renewal, or
- 26 upgrade of a commercial driver's license or nondomiciled commercial
- 27 driver's license, or issuance, transfer, or upgrade of a CLP-commercial
- 28 learner's permit or nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit, as
- 29 described in 49 C.F.R. 383.73;
- 30 (i) Medical examiner means an individual certified by the Federal
- 31 Motor Carrier Safety Administration and listed on the National Registry

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1 of Certified Medical Examiners in accordance with 49 C.F.R. part 390,

- 2 subpart D;
- 3 (j) Medical examiner's certificate means a form meeting the
- 4 requirements of 49 C.F.R. 391.43 issued by a medical examiner in
- 5 compliance with such regulation;
- 6 (k) Medical variance means the Federal Motor Carrier Safety
- 7 Administration has provided a driver with either an exemption letter
- 8 permitting operation of a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to 49 C.F.R.
- 9 381, subpart C, or 49 C.F.R. 391.64 or a Skill Performance Evaluation
- 10 Certificate permitting operation of a commercial motor vehicle pursuant
- 11 to 49 C.F.R. 391.49;
- 12 (1) Nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled
- 13 commercial driver's license means a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
- 14 commercial driver's license, respectively, issued by this state or other
- 15 jurisdiction under either of the following two conditions:
- 16 (i) To an individual domiciled in a foreign country meeting the
- 17 requirements of 49 C.F.R. 383.23(b)(1); or
- 18 (ii) To an individual domiciled in another state meeting the
- 19 requirements of 49 C.F.R. 383.23(b)(2);
- 20 (m) Representative vehicle means a motor vehicle which represents
- 21 the type of motor vehicle that a driver applicant operates or expects to
- 22 operate;
- 23 (n) State means a state of the United States and the District of
- 24 Columbia;
- 25 (o) State of domicile means that state where a person has his or her
- 26 true, fixed, and permanent home and principal residence and to which he
- 27 or she has the intention of returning whenever he or she is absent;
- 28 (p) Tank vehicle means any commercial motor vehicle that is designed
- 29 to transport any liquid or gaseous materials within a tank or tanks that
- 30 have an individual rated capacity of more than one hundred nineteen
- 31 gallons and an aggregate rated capacity of one thousand gallons or more

- 1 and that are either permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or
- 2 the chassis. A commercial motor vehicle transporting an empty storage
- 3 container tank, not designed for transportation, with a rated capacity of
- 4 one thousand gallons or more that is temporarily attached to a flatbed
- 5 trailer is not considered a tank vehicle;
- 6 (q) Third-party skills test examiner means a person employed by a
- 7 third-party tester who is authorized by this state to administer the
- 8 commercial driver's license skills tests specified in 49 C.F.R. part 383,
- 9 subparts G and H;
- (r) Third-party tester means a person, including, but not limited
- 11 to, another state, a motor carrier, a private driver training facility or
- 12 other private institution, or a department, agency, or instrumentality of
- 13 a local government, authorized by this state to employ skills test
- 14 examiners to administer the commercial driver's license skills tests
- 15 specified in 49 C.F.R. part 383, subparts G and H;
- 16 (s) United States means the fifty states and the District of
- 17 Columbia; and
- 18 (t) Vehicle group means a class or type of vehicle with certain
- 19 operating characteristics.
- 20 Sec. 3. Section 60-4,131.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 21 2024, is amended to read:
- 22 60-4,131.01 Sections 60-462.01 and 60-4,132 to 60-4,172 and section
- 23 <u>5 of this act</u> shall not apply to individuals who operate commercial motor
- 24 vehicles for military purposes, including and limited to:
- 25 (1) Active duty military personnel;
- 26 (2) Members of the military reserves, other than military
- 27 technicians;
- 28 (3) Active duty United States Coast Guard personnel; and
- 29 (4) Members of the National Guard on active duty, including:
- 30 (a) Personnel on full-time National Guard duty;
- 31 (b) Personnel on part-time National Guard training; and

1 (c) National Guard military technicians required to wear military

- 2 uniforms.
- 3 Such individuals must have a valid military driver's license unless
- 4 such individual is operating the vehicle under written orders from a
- 5 commanding officer in an emergency declared by the federal government or
- 6 by the State of Nebraska.
- 7 Sec. 4. Section 60-4,132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 8 2024, is amended to read:
- 9 60-4,132 The purposes of sections 60-462.01, 60-4,133, and 60-4,137
- 10 to 60-4,172 and section 5 of this act are to implement the requirements
- 11 mandated by the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986, 49
- 12 U.S.C. 31100 et seq., the federal Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of
- 13 1999, Public Law 106-159, 49 U.S.C. 101 et seq., section 1012 of the
- 14 federal Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools
- 15 Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001, USA PATRIOT
- 16 Act, 49 U.S.C. 5103a, and federal regulations as such acts and
- 17 regulations existed on January 1, 2024, and to reduce or prevent
- 18 commercial motor vehicle accidents, fatalities, and injuries by: (1)
- 19 Permitting drivers to hold only one operator's license; (2) disqualifying
- 20 drivers for specified offenses and serious traffic violations; and (3)
- 21 strengthening licensing and testing standards.
- 22 **Sec. 5.** Any person who is eighteen years of age or older and who
- 23 holds a valid commercial driver's license may be issued a hazardous
- 24 materials endorsement to haul hazardous materials intrastate.
- 25 **Sec. 6.** Original sections 60-462, 60-4,131, 60-4,131.01, and
- 26 60-4,132, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024, are repealed.