

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2547

To expand the Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals who may qualify to perform physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue medical certificates required for operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2017

Mr. WOODALL (for himself and Ms. BROWNLEY of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To expand the Department of Veterans Affairs medical professionals who may qualify to perform physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue medical certificates required for operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Expanded
5 Trucking Opportunities Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL CERTIFICATE FOR VETERANS OPERATING**
2 **COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.**

3 (a) **QUALIFIED EXAMINERS.**—Section 5403(d)(2) of
4 the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548)
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 “(2) **QUALIFIED EXAMINER.**—The term ‘quali-
7 fied examiner’ means an individual who—

8 “(A) is employed in the Department of
9 Veterans Affairs as an advanced practice nurse,
10 doctor of chiropractic, doctor of medicine, doc-
11 tor of osteopathy, physician assistant, or other
12 medical professional;

13 “(B) is licensed, certified, or registered in
14 a State to perform physical examinations;

15 “(C) is familiar with the standards for,
16 and physical requirements of, an operator re-
17 quired to be medically certified under section
18 31149 of title 49, United States Code; and

19 “(D) has never, with respect to such sec-
20 tion, been found to have acted fraudulently, in-
21 cluding by fraudulently awarding a medical cer-
22 tificate.”.

23 (b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 5403 of
24 the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548)
25 is amended—

26 (1) in subsection (a)—

1 (A) by striking “physician-approved vet-
2 eran operator,” and inserting “veteran operator
3 approved by a qualified examiner,”; and

4 (B) by striking “qualified physician” and
5 inserting “qualified examiner”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

7 (A) by striking “the physician” and insert-
8 ing “the examiner”; and

9 (B) by striking “qualified physician” and
10 inserting “qualified examiner”;

11 (3) in subsection (c)—

12 (A) by striking “qualified physicians” and
13 inserting “qualified examiners”; and

14 (B) by striking “such physicians” and in-
15 serting “such examiners”; and

16 (4) in subsection (d)(1)—

17 (A) in the paragraph heading by striking
18 “PHYSICIAN-APPROVED VETERAN OPERATOR”
19 and inserting “VETERAN OPERATOR APPROVED
20 BY A QUALIFIED EXAMINER”; and

21 (B) by striking “physician-approved vet-
22 eran operator” and inserting “veteran operator
23 approved by a qualified examiner”.

24 (c) RULEMAKING.—The amendments made by this
25 section shall be incorporated into any rulemaking pro-

1 ceeding related to section 5403 of the FAST Act (49
2 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548) that being conducted
3 as of the date of enactment of this Act.

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