

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2547

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 27, 2017

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 “(C) is familiar with the standards for,  
19 and physical requirements of, an operator re-  
20 quired to be medically certified under section  
21 31149 of title 49, United States Code; and

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

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 5403 of  
2 the FAST Act (49 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548)  
3 is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) by striking “physician-approved vet-  
6 eran operator,” and inserting “veteran operator  
7 approved by a qualified examiner,”; and

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

10 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

11 (A) by striking “the physician” and insert-  
12 ing “the examiner”; and

13 (B) by striking “qualified physician” and  
14 inserting “qualified examiner”;

15 (3) in subsection (c)—

16 (A) by striking “qualified physicians” and  
17 inserting “qualified examiners”; and

18 (B) by striking “such physicians” and in-  
19 serting “such examiners”; and

20 (4) in subsection (d)(1)—

21 (A) in the paragraph heading by striking  
22 “PHYSICIAN-APPROVED VETERAN OPERATOR”  
23 and inserting “VETERAN OPERATOR APPROVED  
24 BY A QUALIFIED EXAMINER”; and

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

4           (c) RULEMAKING.—The amendments made by this  
5 section shall be incorporated into any rulemaking pro-  
6 ceeding related to section 5403 of the FAST Act (49  
7 U.S.C. 31149 note; 129 Stat. 1548) that is being con-  
8 ducted as of the date of enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives June 26, 2017.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*