

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
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As Engrossed: H3/29/23
A Bill

SENATE BILL 341

By: Senator J. Boyd
By: Representative McClure

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMMERCIAL DRIVER ALCOHOL AND
DRUG TESTING ACT TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE COMMERCIAL DRIVER ALCOHOL
AND DRUG TESTING ACT TO COMPLY WITH
FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 27, Chapter 23, Subchapter 2 is amended
to read as follows:

27-23-202. Definitions.

(a) As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse"
means the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's database that:

(A) Contains information required to be reported by
employers and service agents regarding drivers who are subject to the
Department of Transportation's controlled substance and alcohol testing
regulations; and

(B) Is used to provide information for queries concerning
driver records;

(2)(A)(i) "Consortium/third-party administrator" means a service



agent that provides or coordinates the provision of drug and alcohol testing services to employers that are required to comply with the drug and alcohol testing provisions under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021.

(ii) A consortium/third-party administrator performs tasks concerning the operation of an employer's drug and alcohol testing programs.

(B) "Consortium/third-party administrator" includes without limitation, groups of employers who join together to administer, as a single entity, the drug and alcohol testing programs of its members that are required under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021.

(C) A consortium/third-party administrator is not an "employer" for purposes of this subchapter;

~~(2)(A)(3)~~ "Department of Transportation" means an agency or operating administration of the United States Department of Transportation administering regulations requiring alcohol or drug testing under 14 C.F.R. pts. 61, 63, 65, 121, and 135 and 49 C.F.R. parts 199, 219, 382, and 655 as in effect on November 8, 2021.

~~(4)(A)~~ "Employee" means a person who is a holder of an Arkansas commercial driver license and is subject to drug and alcohol tests under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021.

(B) "Employee" includes an individual currently performing safety-sensitive transportation jobs and an applicant for employment in safety-sensitive transportation jobs subject to preemployment testing; and

~~(3)(5)(A)~~ "Employer" means an Arkansas person or entity employing one (1) or more employees subject to the drug and alcohol testing provisions under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021.

(B) "Employer" includes:

(i) An individual who holds an Arkansas commercial driver license who is self-employed in a safety-sensitive transportation job for which drug and alcohol tests are required under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021; and

(ii) An Arkansas employer's officer, representative, or management personnel.

(b) Except as provided in this subchapter, the definition under 49 C.F.R. § 40.3, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021, applies to a term that is used in this subchapter if that term is defined under 49 C.F.R. § 40.3, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-23-203 is amended to read as follows:

27-23-203. Applicability – Exemptions.

(a) This subchapter applies to:

(1) An Arkansas employer who is required to comply with the drug and alcohol testing provisions under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021;

(2) An employee who holds an Arkansas commercial driver license and who either:

(A) Is employed by an Arkansas employer in a safety-sensitive transportation job for which drug and alcohol tests are required under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021; or

(B) Has submitted an application for employment with an Arkansas employer for a safety-sensitive transportation job for which drug and alcohol tests are required under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021; and

(3) A consortium/third-party administrator that provides or coordinates the provision of drug and alcohol testing services to Arkansas employers that are required under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, 49 C.F.R. pts. 350-399, as in effect on ~~January 1, 2009~~ November 8, 2021.

(b) This subchapter does not apply to an individual who is exempt from holding a commercial driver license notwithstanding whether the individual holds a commercial driver license.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 27-23-205 is repealed:

~~27-23-205. Reporting test results.~~

~~(a) An Arkansas employer shall report to the Office of Driver Services within three (3) business days the results of an alcohol screening test that is performed on an employee who holds an Arkansas commercial driver license if:~~

~~(1) The alcohol screening test is performed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 382.303 or § 382.305, as in effect on January 1, 2009; and~~

~~(2) One (1) of the following occurs regarding the alcohol screening test:~~

~~(A) A valid positive result; or~~

~~(B) The refusal to provide a specimen for an alcohol screening test.~~

~~(b) An Arkansas employer shall report within three (3) business days to the Office of Driver Services any of the following occurrences regarding a drug test result of an employee who holds an Arkansas commercial driver license:~~

~~(1) A valid positive result on a drug test for any of the following drugs:~~

~~(A) Marijuana metabolites;~~

~~(B) Cocaine metabolites;~~

~~(C) Amphetamines;~~

~~(D) Opiate metabolites; or~~

~~(E) Phencyclidine;~~

~~(2) The refusal to provide a specimen for a drug test; or~~

~~(3) The submission of an adulterated specimen, a dilute positive specimen, or a substituted specimen on a drug test performed.~~

~~(c) A consortium/third party administrator shall report to the Office of Driver Services within three (3) business days the results of an alcohol screening test that is performed on an Arkansas employer or employee who holds an Arkansas commercial driver license if:~~

~~(1) The alcohol screening test is performed pursuant to 49 C.F.R. § 382.303 or § 382.305, as in effect on January 1, 2009; and~~

~~(2) One (1) of the following occurs regarding the alcohol screening test:~~

~~(A) A valid positive result; or~~

~~(B) The refusal to provide a specimen for an alcohol screening test.~~

~~(d) A consortium/third party administrator shall report within three (3) business days to the Office of Driver Services any of the following occurrences regarding a drug test result of an Arkansas employer or employee who holds an Arkansas commercial driver license:~~

~~(1) A valid positive result on a drug test for any of the following drugs:~~

~~(A) Marijuana metabolites;~~

~~(B) Cocaine metabolites;~~

~~(C) Amphetamines;~~

~~(D) Opiate metabolites; or~~

~~(E) Phencyclidine;~~

~~(2) The refusal to provide a specimen for a drug test; or~~

~~(3) The submission of an adulterated specimen, a dilute positive specimen, or a substituted specimen on a drug test performed.~~

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 27-23-206 is amended to read as follows:

27-23-206. Maintenance Application of Clearinghouse and maintenance of information - Confidentiality.

~~(a)(1) The Office of Driver Services shall maintain the information provided under this section in a database to be known as the "Commercial Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing Database" for at least three (3) years.~~

~~(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, personally identifying information of employees in the database is confidential and shall be released by the Office of Driver Services only as provided under § 27-23-207.~~

~~(c) The use of one (1) report generated from the database to establish noncompliance for the imposition of a penalty under § 27-23-209 shall not subject the contents of the entire database to disclosure.~~

Upon receipt of an application to issue, renew, transfer, or upgrade a commercial driver license or commercial learner permit, the Office of Driver Services shall request the driver's record from the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse.

(2) If the query indicates that the driver is prohibited from operating a commercial motor vehicle, the application for a commercial driver license or commercial learner permit will be denied.

(3) A driver may resubmit his or her application to the office

after complying with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's return-to-duty process, as set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 40, Subpart O, as in effect on January 1, 2023.

(4) The office shall not approve an application unless a negative return-to-duty test result has been reported to the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse.

(b)(1)(A) If the office is notified by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration that a driver is prohibited from operating a commercial motor vehicle under 49 C.F.R. 382.501(a), as in effect on January 1, 2023, the office shall revoke the driver's commercial driver license or commercial learner permit.

(B) A revocation under subdivision (b)(1)(A) of this section shall be effective immediately upon receipt of the notification from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

(2) The revocation of the commercial driver license or commercial learner permit will result in a downgrade to a standard driver's license.

(3) The office shall complete and record the downgrade on the driver's record within sixty (60) days of notification from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

(c) The office:

(1) Shall only use the information received from the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse to determine a driver's qualifications to operate a commercial motor vehicle; and

(2) May not divulge or permit any other person or entity to divulge any information from the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse to any person or entity not directly involved in determining a driver's qualifications to operate a motor vehicle.

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code §§ 27-23-207 - 27-23-209 are repealed.

~~27-23-207. Use of database by employers.~~

~~(a) An Arkansas employer shall submit a request for information from the Commercial Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing Database for each employee who is subject to drug and alcohol testing under this subchapter.~~

~~(b) The request for information shall be submitted to the Office of Driver Services by the Arkansas employer with an authorization that is signed~~

~~by the employee.~~

~~(c)(1)(A) The fee for the request for information is a nominal fee not to exceed one dollar (\$1.00) per employee per request.~~

~~(B) The Office of Driver Services shall determine the amount of the fee.~~

~~(C) The Office of Driver Services shall set the fee before implementation by rule.~~

~~(2) The fee shall be assessed to and paid by the Arkansas employer requesting the information.~~

~~(d) The Arkansas employer shall maintain a record of the report from the database that results from the request for information submitted under this section for at least three (3) years.~~

~~27-23-208. Use of database by employee.~~

~~(a) An employee who holds a commercial driver license may submit a request for information from the Commercial Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing Database for his or her report.~~

~~(b) The request for information shall be submitted with a signed authorization to the Office of Driver Services by the employee who holds a commercial driver's license.~~

~~(c)(1) The fee for the request for information is one dollar (\$1.00) per request.~~

~~(2) The fee shall be submitted with the signed authorization.~~

~~27-23-209. Penalties.~~

~~(a)(1) The penalty for an Arkansas employer who knowingly fails to check the Commercial Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing Database as required under this subchapter is one thousand dollars (\$1,000).~~

~~(2) The penalty described in subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be assessed beginning July 1, 2008.~~

~~(b)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the penalty for an Arkansas employer who knowingly hires an employee with a record of a positive alcohol or drug test in the database is five thousand dollars (\$5,000).~~

~~(2) This subsection does not apply to an employee who has completed a treatment program or an education program prescribed by a~~

~~substance abuse professional and who has been found eligible to return to duty by the employer as provided under 49 C.F.R. §§ 40.281—40.313, as in effect on January 1, 2009.~~

~~(c) The penalty for an Arkansas employer who knowingly fails to report an occurrence regarding an alcohol or drug screening test as required under § 27-23-205(a) or § 27-23-205(b) is five hundred dollars (\$500).~~

~~(d)(1) The penalty for a consortium/third party administrator who knowingly fails to report an occurrence regarding a drug or alcohol test result as required under § 27-23-205(c) or § 27-23-205(d) is five hundred dollars (\$500).~~

~~(2) If the consortium/third party administrator is out of state, the penalty under subdivision (d)(1) of this section shall be extended to the Arkansas employer that contracted with the consortium/third party administrator.~~

~~(e) The penalties under this section do not apply to the State of Arkansas, an agency of the state, or a political subdivision of the state.~~

~~(f) Moneys collected under this section are special revenues and shall be deposited into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Highway and Transportation Department Fund.~~

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 27-23-210 is amended to read as follows:

27-23-210. Miscellaneous authority – Rules.

(a) The Office of Driver Services shall pursue grants available through the United States Department of Transportation or other entity to assist with the cost of ~~this program~~ compliance with the Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse.

(b) The Office of Driver Services may:

(1) Adopt rules to administer this subchapter; and
 (2) Receive and expend any moneys arising from grants, contributions, or reimbursements from the United States Department of Transportation or other entity for performing its duties under this subchapter; ~~and~~

~~(3) Contract with a third party to administer the Commercial Driver Alcohol and Drug Testing Database.~~

/s/J. Boyd