

Senate Study Bill 1015 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON ZUMBACH)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to driver age qualifications for certain
2 commercial motor vehicle drivers operating solely intrastate
3 to transport hazardous material.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 321.449, subsection 3, Code 2025, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. Rules adopted under this section concerning driver age
4 qualifications do not apply to drivers for private and for-hire
5 motor carriers which operate solely intrastate ~~except when the~~
6 ~~vehicle being driven is transporting a hazardous material in a~~
7 ~~quantity which requires placarding.~~ The minimum age for the
8 exempted intrastate operations is eighteen years of age.

9 Sec. 2. Section 321.450, subsection 3, Code 2025, is amended
10 to read as follows:

11 3. Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, ~~or the~~
12 ~~age requirements under section 321.449,~~ the age requirements
13 under section 321.449 and the rules adopted under this section
14 pertaining to compliance with regulations adopted under United
15 States Code, Tit. 49, and found in 49 C.F.R. §177.804, shall
16 not apply to retail dealers of fertilizers, petroleum products,
17 and pesticides and their employees while delivering fertilizers,
18 petroleum products, and pesticides to farm customers within a
19 one-hundred-mile radius of their retail place of business.

20 EXPLANATION

21 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
22 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

23 Under current law, the department of public safety (DPS), in
24 consultation with the department of transportation, is authorized
25 to adopt motor carrier safety rules consistent with federal
26 motor carrier safety regulations. Federal regulations require
27 a person to be at least 21 years old in order to be licensed
28 as a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver (49 C.F.R. §391.11),
29 with limited exceptions. DPS is authorized to adopt rules
30 authorizing a person who is at least 18 years of age, but under
31 21 years of age, to be licensed to operate a CMV in interstate
32 commerce if the person holds a valid commercial driver's license
33 (CDL) and is authorized under federal law to operate a CMV
34 in interstate commerce. In addition, rules adopted by DPS
35 concerning driver age qualifications do not apply to drivers

1 for private and for-hire motor carriers which operate solely
2 intrastate except when the vehicle being driven is transporting a
3 hazardous material in a quantity which requires placarding. The
4 minimum age for the exempted intrastate operations is 18 years of
5 age.

6 This bill strikes the age qualifications exception for
7 drivers transporting a hazardous material in a quantity which
8 requires placarding, thus making DPS rules concerning driver
9 age qualifications inapplicable to persons who hold a CDL while
10 driving a CMV for private and for-hire motor carriers, which
11 operate solely intrastate, to transport hazardous material.
12 The bill strikes a reference to the age requirements under
13 Code section 321.449, amended by the bill, regarding the
14 inapplicability of rules pertaining to retail dealers of
15 fertilizers, petroleum products, and pesticides and their
16 employees while delivering fertilizers, petroleum products, and
17 pesticides to farm customers within a 100-mile radius of their
18 retail place of business.

19 The bill does not amend Code section 321.180(2)(f), which
20 provides that a commercial learner's permit is not valid for
21 the operation of a vehicle transporting hazardous materials.
22 In general, rules adopted by DPS for CMV drivers still apply
23 to a CMV driver engaged exclusively in intrastate commerce to
24 transport hazardous materials requiring a placard (see Code
25 section 321.449(4)(a)).