

Andrew Speights

Andrew Speights is a 25-year-old class R license holder in Mississippi. They have a history of seizure disorder and have been seizure free since October 2016. They take anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since October 2016. Their physician states that they are supportive of Andrew Speights receiving an exemption.

Vic Sprenkle

Vic Sprenkle is a 59-year-old class AM CDL holder in Pennsylvania. They have a history of single partial complex seizure and have been seizure free since August 3, 2009. They take anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2009. Their physician states that they are supportive of Vic Sprenkle receiving an exemption.

Todd Weston

Todd Weston is a 48-year-old class AM1 CDL holder in California. They have a history of seizure disorder and have been seizure free since 2010. They take anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since October 2017. Their physician states that they are supportive of Todd Weston receiving an exemption.

Vernon Wingate

Vernon Wingate is a 34-year-old class C license holder in Maryland. They have a history of seizure disorder and have been seizure free since June 2016. They take anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since March 4, 2020. Their physician states that they are supportive of Vernon Wingate receiving an exemption.

IV. Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on the exemption petitions described in this notice. We will consider all comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated under the **DATES** section of the notice.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2024-30884 Filed 12-26-24; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

[Docket No. FMCSA-2024-0277]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Hearing

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 10 individuals for an exemption from the hearing requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) in interstate commerce. If granted, the exemptions would enable these hard of hearing and deaf individuals to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 27, 2025.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by the Federal Docket Management System Docket No. FMCSA-2024-0277 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to www.regulations.gov/, insert the docket number (FMCSA-2024-0277) in the keyword box and click "Search." Next, choose the only notice listed, and click on the "Comment" button. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Dockets Operations; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* West Building Ground Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the "Public Participation" portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, FMCSA, DOT, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001, (202) 366-4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Dockets Operations, (202) 366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Public Participation***A. Submitting Comments*

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (Docket No. FMCSA-2024-0277), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FMCSA-2024-0277>. Next, sort the results by "Posted (Newer-Older)," choose the only notice listed, click the "Comment" button, and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

B. Viewing Comments

To view comments go to www.regulations.gov. Insert the docket number (FMCSA-2024-0277) in the keyword box and click "Search." Next, choose the only notice listed, and click "Browse Comments." If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366-9317 or (202) 366-9826 before visiting Dockets Operations.

C. Privacy Act

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), DOT solicits comments from the public on the exemption requests. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov. As described in the system of records notice DOT/ALL 14 (Federal Docket Management

System), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-records-notices>, the comments are searchable by the name of the submitter.

II. Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSRs for no longer than a 5-year period if it finds such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption. The statutes also allow the Agency to renew exemptions at the end of the 5-year period. FMCSA grants medical exemptions from the FMCSRs for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver's medical certification.

The 10 individuals listed in this notice have requested an exemption from the hearing requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11). Accordingly, the Agency will evaluate the qualifications of each applicant to determine whether granting the exemption will achieve the required level of safety mandated by statute.

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding hearing found in § 391.41(b)(11) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person first perceives a forced whispered voice in the better ear at not less than 5 feet with or without the use of a hearing aid or, if tested by use of an audiometric device, does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing aid when the audiometric device is calibrated to American National Standard (formerly ASA Standard) Z24.5—1951.

This standard was adopted in 1970 and was revised in 1971 to allow drivers to be qualified under this standard while wearing a hearing aid, (35 FR 6458, 6463 (Apr. 22, 1970) and 36 FR 12857 (July 8, 1971), respectively).

On February 1, 2013, FMCSA announced in a Notice of Final Disposition titled, "Qualification of Drivers; Application for Exemptions; National Association of the Deaf," (78 FR 7479), its decision to grant requests from 40 individuals for exemptions from the Agency's physical qualification standard concerning hearing for interstate CMV drivers. Since that time the Agency has published additional notices granting requests from hard of hearing and deaf individuals for exemptions from the Agency's physical qualification standard concerning hearing for interstate CMV drivers.

III. Qualifications of Applicants

James Armstrong

James Armstrong, 37, holds a class D driver's license in Tennessee.

Bethany Barrett

Bethany Barrett, 32, holds a class D driver's license in Wisconsin.

Kevin Lopez Morales

Kevin Lopez Morales, 29, holds a class D driver's license in North Dakota.

Socorro Melendez

Socorro Melendez, 32, holds a class C driver's license in Texas.

Robert Piacente

Robert Piacente, 69, holds a class A commercial driver's license (CDL) in Louisiana.

Dalton Rosch

Dalton Rosch, 27, holds a class C driver's license in Iowa.

Ferfran Sanchez Molina

Ferfran Sanchez Molina, 30, holds a class D driver's license in New Jersey.

Jonathan Santiago

Jonathan Santiago, 40, holds a class E driver's license in Florida.

John Shepard

John Shepard, 76, holds a class B CDL in Connecticut.

Andrew Weaver

Andrew Weaver, 32, holds a class D driver's license in Virginia.

IV. Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on the exemption petitions described in this notice. We will consider all comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated under the **DATES** section of the notice.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[Docket Number FRA–2014–0048]

Petition for Extension of Waiver of Compliance

Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice

that on October 14, 2024, and December 13, 2024, Union Pacific Railroad Company (UP) petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an extension of a waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR parts 215 (Railroad Freight Car Safety Standards), 229 (Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards), and 232 (Brake System Safety Standards for Freight and Other Non-Passenger Trains and Equipment; End-of-Train Devices). The relevant Docket Number is FRA–2014–0048.

Specifically, UP seeks an extension of relief from part 215, § 229.21, *Daily inspection*, and § 232.205(a)(1), *Class I brake test—initial terminal inspection*, to move freight cars received in interchange from Ferrocarriles Nacionales de Mexico at the International Yard on the Lordsburg Subdivision in El Paso, Texas, to Dallas Street Yard (for westbound traffic) or Alfalfa Yard (for eastbound traffic). The required inspections are conducted at these yards, which are 2.8 and 7 miles from the International Yard, respectively. In its petition, UP notes that the territory between International Yard and Dallas Street and Alfalfa Yards "traverses through a residential area with multiple public grade crossings[,] which also handle heavy pedestrian traffic." Additionally, UP requests to expand the relief in this docket to permit it to move trains to Santa Teresa, New Mexico, a distance of 20.5 miles.

In support of its petition, UP states that the movement "expedit[es] any delays caused by port of entry inspections and allow[s] a more efficient use of the bridge window." UP adds that completing inspections and testing of equipment at the Dallas and Alfalfa Yards is "safer/more secure than attempting it on the bridge precisely at the US border line," as the infrastructure of the Dallas and Alfalfa facilities "supports inspections, and repair associated activities, including switching out bad orders, safer and better than other upstream properties." Finally, UP notes that the relief avoids "unnecessary public disruptions within the city of El Paso, [Texas], including, but not limited to, excessively blocked crossings" as well as "alleviates undue additional locomotive emissions from excessive idling times."

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at www.regulations.gov.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate