

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 5688
OFFERED BY MR. ROUZER OF NORTH CAROLINA

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as “Dalilah’s Law”.

3 **SEC. 2. ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31305 of title 49, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (7) by striking “and” at
8 the end;

9 (B) in paragraph (8) by striking the period
10 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

11 (C) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(9) shall ensure both the knowledge and skills
13 tests required for an individual to operate a commer-
14 cial motor vehicle are administered only in the
15 English language.”; and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(e) ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure
2 an individual may only operate a commercial motor
3 vehicle if the individual can read and speak the
4 English language sufficiently to—

5 “(A) converse with law enforcement offi-
6 cers;

7 “(B) understand highway traffic signs and
8 signals in the English language;

9 “(C) respond to official inquiries; and

10 “(D) make entries on reports and records.

11 “(2) AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE.—For the pur-
12 poses of carrying out subsection (a)(9) and para-
13 graph (1), communication through American Sign
14 Language shall be considered to comply with the re-
15 quirements of such provisions.

16 “(3) OUT-OF-SERVICE.—The Secretary shall re-
17 quire that a State or Federal inspector who deter-
18 mines that an individual is not in compliance with
19 paragraph (1) place such individual out-of-service.”.

20 (b) DISQUALIFICATION.—Section 31310(b)(1) of title
21 49, United States Code, is amended—

22 (1) in subparagraph (D) by striking “or” at the
23 end;

24 (2) in subparagraph (E) by striking the period
25 and inserting “; or”; and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(F) committing a first violation of being
3 placed out-of-service for failure to comply with
4 the requirements under section 31305(e).”.

5 (c) COMPLIANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the
6 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue
7 a final rule revising title 49, Code of Federal Regulations,
8 to reflect the amendments made by this section.

9 (d) ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ENFORCE-
10 MENT GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date
11 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue guid-
12 ance to ensure consistent enforcement across States in the
13 administration of English language proficiency qualifica-
14 tion requirements during driver and vehicle inspections.

15 **SEC. 3. NON-DOMICILED CDLS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31311(a) of title 49,
17 United States Code, is amended—

18 (1) in the subsection heading by striking “GEN-
19 ERAL” and inserting “IN GENERAL”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (12) by striking subpara-
21 graphs (A) and (B) and inserting the following:

22 “(A) Except as provided in subparagraphs
23 (B) and (C), the State may issue a commercial
24 driver’s license only to an individual who—

1 “(i) operates or will operate a com-
2 mercial motor vehicle; and

3 “(ii) is a United States citizen, United
4 States national, or lawful permanent resi-
5 dent domiciled in the State.

6 “(B) Under regulations prescribed by the
7 Secretary, the State may issue a commercial
8 driver’s license to an individual who operates or
9 will operate a commercial motor vehicle and is
10 domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction, if—

11 “(i) with respect to an individual who
12 is not domiciled in the State (other than
13 the jurisdictions specified in clause (ii))—

14 “(I) the individual—

15 “(aa) is a United States cit-
16 izen, United States national, or
17 lawful permanent resident domi-
18 ciled in a State that does not
19 issue commercial driver’s li-
20 censes; or

21 “(bb) maintains valid non-
22 immigrant status in an employ-
23 ment-based classification for
24 which the basis for employment
25 customarily or specifically re-

1 quires the holding of a commer-
2 cial driver’s license, limited exclu-
3 sively to a classification described
4 in subparagraph (E)(ii),
5 (H)(ii)(a), or (H)(ii)(b) of section
6 101(a)(15) of the Immigration
7 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
8 1101(a)(15));

9 “(II) the State confirms, for an
10 individual described in subclause
11 (I)(bb), the individual’s lawful immi-
12 gration status using a system speci-
13 fied by the Secretary before issuing,
14 transferring, renewing, or upgrading a
15 license issued under this paragraph;

16 “(III) the State issues a license
17 described under this paragraph for a
18 time period of up to 1 year or until
19 the expiration of the individual’s au-
20 thorized stay in the United States,
21 whichever is shorter; and

22 “(IV) the State retains records
23 related to the issuance of a license
24 under this paragraph for not less than
25 2 years or for a period of time as oth-

1 erwise prescribed by the Secretary
2 and, within 48 hours of a request,
3 provides such records to the Sec-
4 retary; and

5 “(ii) with respect to an individual
6 domiciled in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Is-
7 lands, Guam, American Samoa, or the
8 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
9 Islands—

10 “(I) the individual presents ac-
11 ceptable proof that the individual is a
12 United States citizen, United States
13 National, or lawful permanent resi-
14 dent;

15 “(II) the State confirms that the
16 individual is a United States citizen,
17 United States national, or lawful per-
18 manent resident using a system speci-
19 fied by the Secretary before issuing,
20 transferring, renewing, or upgrading a
21 license issued under this paragraph;
22 and

23 “(III) the State retains records
24 related to the issuance of a license de-
25 scribed under this paragraph for not

1 less than 2 years or for a period of a
2 time as otherwise prescribed by the
3 Secretary and, within 48 hours of a
4 request, provides such records to the
5 Secretary.”.

6 (b) COMPLIANCE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
8 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
9 shall require each State to—

10 (A) conduct an audit of unexpired commer-
11 cial driver’s licenses issued to individuals domi-
12 ciled in a foreign jurisdiction by such State; and

13 (B) determine whether commercial driver’s
14 licenses issued to individuals domiciled in for-
15 eign jurisdictions by such State comply with the
16 requirements under section 31311(a)(12)(B) of
17 title 49, United States Code (as amended by
18 this Act).

19 (2) AUTHORITY.—Upon determining that a
20 commercial driver’s license was not issued in compli-
21 ance, or cannot be brought into compliance, with
22 section 31311(a)(12)(B) of title 49, United States
23 Code (as amended by this Act), such State shall
24 promptly—

1 (A) revoke, suspend, or cancel the license
2 of such individual; and

3 (B) notify such individual of the action
4 taken and reason for said action.

5 (3) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than
6 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, each
7 State shall submit to the Secretary a report on the
8 actions taken under this subsection, including—

9 (A) the number of licenses issued to indi-
10 viduals domiciled in foreign jurisdictions; and

11 (B) the number of licenses revoked, sus-
12 pended, or cancelled, as required under para-
13 graph (2)(A).

14 **SEC. 4. ENHANCED PENALTIES FOR STATE NONCOMPLI-**
15 **ANCE.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31314 of title 49, United
17 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

18 **“§ 31314. Withholding amounts for State noncompli-**
19 **ance**

20 **“(a) PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—**For each fis-
21 cal year a State does not comply substantially with a re-
22 quirement of section 31311(a) or section 31305(e), the
23 Secretary of Transportation shall withhold—

24 **“(1)** up to 8 percent of the amount required to
25 be apportioned to a State under paragraphs (1), (3),

1 and (4) of section 104(b) of title 23 for the first in-
2 stance of noncompliance; and

3 “(2) up to 12 percent of the amount required
4 to be apportioned to a State under paragraphs (1),
5 (3), and (4) of section 104(b) of title 23 for each
6 subsequent fiscal year.

7 “(b) AVAILABILITY OF APPORTIONMENT.—Amounts
8 withheld under this section from apportionment to a State
9 are not available for apportionment to the State.”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
11 subsection (a) shall be effective on October 1, 2026.

12 **SEC. 5. STATE ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL DRIVER DIS-**
13 **QUALIFICATION.**

14 (a) NONCOMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE CONVIC-
15 TION.—Section 31310(g)(1) of title 49, United States
16 Code, is amended by inserting “or is required to hold a
17 commercial driver’s license” after “who holds a commer-
18 cial driver’s license”.

19 (b) DISQUALIFICATION OF CONVICTED DRIVERS.—
20 Section 31311(a) of title 49, United States Code, is
21 amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (15) by striking “subsections
23 (b)-(e)” and inserting “subsections (b)-(f)”;

24 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (16) through
25 (25) as paragraphs (18) through (27), respectively;

1 (3) by inserting after paragraph (15) the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(16) The State shall disqualify an individual
4 from operating a commercial motor vehicle for the
5 same reasons and time periods for which another
6 State disqualified the individual under subsections
7 (b)-(e), (i)(1)(A) and (i)(2) of section 31310.

8 “(17) The State shall disqualify an individual
9 from operating a commercial motor vehicle for the
10 same reasons and time periods under subsections
11 (b)-(e), (i)(1)(A) and (i)(2) of section 31310, if the
12 Secretary notifies the State that, in the Secretary’s
13 determination, the individual was convicted of an
14 equivalent disqualifiable offense in a foreign coun-
15 try.”; and

16 (4) in paragraph (21), as so redesignated, by
17 striking “paragraph (9)” and inserting “paragraphs
18 (9) and (15)”.

19 **SEC. 6. EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 31304(a) of title 49,
21 United States Code, is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (1) by striking “or” at the
23 end;

24 (2) in paragraph (2) by striking the period at
25 the end and inserting a semicolon; and

1 (3) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(3) does not possess a valid commercial driv-
3 er’s license issued in accordance with the standards
4 required under this chapter (including regulations
5 prescribed to carry out requirements of this chap-
6 ter); or

7 “(4) does not meet the qualification described
8 in section 31305(e)(1).”.

9 (b) REGISTRATION STATUS.—

10 (1) EFFECTIVE PERIODS OF REGISTRATION.—

11 Section 13905 of title 49, United States Code, is
12 amended—

13 (A) in subsection (d)(2)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (B)(iii) by strik-
15 ing “for failure”;

16 (ii) in subparagraph (C)(iii) by strik-
17 ing “or” at the end;

18 (iii) in subparagraph (D) by striking
19 the period at the end and inserting “; or”;
20 and

21 (iv) by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(E) withhold, suspend, amend, or revoke
24 any part of a registration of a motor carrier,
25 foreign motor carrier, or foreign private motor

1 carrier following a determination by the Sec-
2 retary that the motor carrier fails to comply
3 with employer responsibilities described in sec-
4 tion 31304(a).”; and

5 (A) in subsection (f)(1)—

6 (i) in subparagraph (A) by striking “;
7 and” at the end and inserting a semicolon;

8 (ii) in subparagraph (B) by striking
9 the period at the end and inserting “;
10 and”; and

11 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
12 lowing:

13 “(C) may revoke the registration of a
14 motor carrier, a foreign motor carrier, or for-
15 eign private motor carrier that operates a com-
16 mercial motor vehicle, as such term is defined
17 in section 31132, in interstate commerce while
18 subject to a suspension of registration pursuant
19 to subsection (d).”.

20 (2) REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF REGISTRA-
21 TION.—Section 31134(c) of title 49, United States
22 Code, is amended—

23 (A) in paragraph (4) by striking the period
24 at the end and inserting “; or”; and

25 (B) by inserting at the end the following:

1 “(5) the employer or persons fails to comply
2 with employer responsibilities described in section
3 31304(a).”.

4 (c) NOTIFICATION SYSTEM.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
6 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of
7 Transportation shall modernize the driver record no-
8 tification system, as defined in section 31304(b)(4)
9 of title 49, United States Code, to ensure such sys-
10 tem promptly notifies a motor carrier if an employee
11 of such motor carrier—

12 (A) has had their license revoked, sus-
13 pended, or canceled by a State; or

14 (B) does not possess a valid commercial
15 driver’s license issued in accordance with the
16 standards required under chapter 313 of title
17 49, United States Code.

18 (2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this
19 subsection shall be construed to relieve an employer
20 of any responsibility under section 31304(a) of title
21 49, United States Code (as amended by this Act).

22 **SEC. 7. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN FOREIGN DISPATCH**
23 **SERVICES.**

24 (a) PROHIBITION.—Section 13904 of title 49, United
25 State Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(h) PROHIBITION ON FOREIGN REGISTRANTS.—The
2 Secretary may not register as a broker any person with
3 a principal place of business—

4 “(1) not located in a State (as such term is de-
5 fined in section 30301); or

6 “(2) in Canada or Mexico that is not properly
7 licensed by the appropriate authority in such coun-
8 try.”.

9 (b) ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 149 of title 49,
11 United States Code, is amended by adding at the
12 following:

13 **“§ 14917. Prohibition on foreign dispatch services**

14 “(a) FOREIGN DISPATCH SERVICE DEFINED.—In
15 this section, the term ‘foreign dispatch service’ means a
16 person or entity that—

17 “(1) maintains its principal place of business
18 outside of the United States, Mexico, or Canada;

19 “(2) acts as a direct licensed agent on behalf of
20 1 or more motor carriers through a formal written
21 agreement;

22 “(3) receives compensation from a motor car-
23 rier described in paragraph (2) based on a predeter-
24 mined written legal contractual agreement; and

1 “(4) provides only administrative or support
2 services that are limited to—

3 “(A) coordinating freight movements with-
4 out assuming responsibility for the cargo or ar-
5 ranging transportation; and

6 “(B) communicating with a broker or ship-
7 per to arrange for the transportation of ship-
8 ments for the motor carrier.

9 “(b) PROHIBITION.—Not later than the date that is
10 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, a motor
11 carrier is prohibited from utilizing the services of a foreign
12 dispatch service.

13 “(c) CERTIFICATION.—A motor carrier shall certify
14 that it does not utilize foreign dispatch services on any
15 application for operating authority registration or applica-
16 tion for renewal of such authority.

17 “(d) CIVIL PENALTIES.—Any motor carrier who
18 knowingly authorizes, consents to, or permits, directly or
19 indirectly, either alone or in conjunction with any other
20 person, a violation of subsection (b) or (c) is liable to the
21 United States Government for a civil penalty in an amount
22 not less than \$50,000 for each violation.”.

23 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
24 chapter 149 of title 49, United States Code, is
25 amended by adding at the end the following:

“14917. Prohibition on foreign dispatch services.”.

1 **SEC. 8. SELF-CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING PROVIDERS.**

2 (a) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 18 months after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
4 portation shall issue a final rule to revise the self-certifi-
5 cation process for training providers and their placement
6 on the training provider registry as described in subpart
7 G of part 380 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations,
8 to ensure all registrants on the training provider reg-
9 istry—

10 (1) meet Federal requirements at the time of
11 initial certification; and

12 (2) continue to demonstrate to the Secretary
13 compliance with requirements through the duration
14 of the certification period.

15 (b) COMPLIANCE.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
17 after the effective date of the final rule described in
18 subsection (a), the Secretary shall require all train-
19 ing providers to recertify their eligibility for place-
20 ment on the training provider registry in accordance
21 with the revised regulations.

22 (2) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may remove
23 any training provider who fails to recertify their eli-
24 gibility on the training provider registry in accord-
25 ance with the requirements under paragraph (1).

