Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

49 CFR Part 391

[Docket No. FMCSA–2005–23151]

Qualifications of Drivers; Diabetes Standard

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

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: FMCSA proposes to permit drivers with stable, well-controlled insulin-treated diabetes mellitus (ITDM) to be qualified to operate commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce. Currently, drivers with ITDM are prohibited from driving CMVs in interstate commerce unless they obtain an exemption from FMCSA. This NPRM would enable individuals with ITDM to obtain a Medical Examiner’s Certificate (MEC), from a medical examiner (ME) at least annually in order to operate in interstate commerce if the treating clinician (TC) who is the healthcare professional responsible for prescribing insulin for the driver’s diabetes, provides documentation to the ME that the condition is stable and well-controlled.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before July 6, 2015.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by docket number FMCSA–2005–23151 using any one of the following methods:

- Hand delivery: Same as mail address above, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The telephone number is 202–366–9329.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation and Request for Comments” heading under the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section below for instructions regarding submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions about this proposed rule, contact Ms. Linda Phillips, Medical Programs Division, FMCSA, 1200 New Jersey Ave SE., Washington DC 20590–0001, by telephone at 202–366–4001, or by email at fmcsamedical@dot.gov. If you have questions about viewing or submitting material to the docket, call Ms. Barbara Hairston, Program Manager, Docket Services, telephone 202–366–9826.

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I. Executive Summary

A. Purpose and Summary of Major Provisions

Under the current regulations, a driver with ITDM may not operate a CMV in interstate commerce unless the driver obtains an exemption from FMCSA, which must be renewed at least every 2 years. FMCSA proposes to allow individuals with well-controlled ITDM to drive CMVs in interstate commerce if they are examined at least annually by an ME who is listed in the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners (National Registry), have received the MEC from the ME, and are otherwise physically qualified. FMCSA believes that this procedure will adequately...