

CHAPTER 10

AN ACT concerning commercial driver license testing, supplementing Title 39 of the Revised Statutes, and amending P.L.1990, c.103.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.39:3-10.21a Commercial Driver License Testing Pilot Program.

1. a. There is established within the Motor Vehicle Commission a Commercial Driver License Testing Pilot Program which shall be implemented by the chief administrator. Pursuant to the provisions of this act, the chief administrator shall appoint three private third party vendors to administer the knowledge and skills tests for a commercial driver license or endorsement. Of the private third party vendors appointed to participate in the program, one each shall be located in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State.

b. In implementing the pilot program, the chief administrator shall:

(1) develop procedures for identifying private third party vendors eligible to administer the knowledge and skills tests for commercial driver licenses or endorsements;

(2) compile a list of third party vendors eligible to provide the knowledge and skills tests for commercial driver licenses or endorsements;

(3) establish guidelines necessary to establish and oversee the administration of commercial motor vehicle driver testing by private third parties including establishment of maximum fees that may be charged; and

(4) take any other action necessary to implement the provisions of this act.

c. The private third party vendors appointed pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall be fully operational and administering knowledge and skills tests within 90 days following the effective date of this act.

d. Within nine months of the effective date of this act, the chief administrator shall submit to the Governor and the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1) an evaluation of the pilot program with recommendations that will facilitate the permanent use of third party vendors to administer knowledge and skills tests for commercial driver licenses or endorsements pursuant to section 13 of P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.21).

2. Section 13 of P.L.1990, c.103 (C.39:3-10.21) is amended to read as follows:

C.39:3-10.21 Regulation of third party testing.

13. Within one year of the effective date of P.L.2017, c.10 (C.39:3-10.21a et al.) the chief administrator shall, by contract, by appointment as a motor vehicle agent, or by licensing, authorize any necessary persons, including but not limited to an agency of this or another state, an employer, a private driver training facility or other private institution, or a department, agency or instrumentality of local government to administer the knowledge or skills tests for a commercial driver license or endorsement. The appointments shall be based on the evaluation of the pilot program and recommendations submitted to the Governor pursuant to P.L.2017, c.10 (C.39:3-10.21a et al.).

The chief administrator shall adopt regulations necessary to establish, oversee, and regulate the administration of commercial motor vehicle driver testing by third parties including establishment of maximum fees that may be charged. The maximum fee for a skills test administered by a third party shall be set at an amount equal to the cost to the State for administering the testing.

The chief administrator may limit the number of persons licensed to administer examinations and may suspend or revoke an authorization on any reasonable ground. A

person authorized to administer examinations by appointment as a motor vehicle agent shall so act until this authority is revoked by the chief administrator.

An examiner administering a skills test shall not be held accountable for any violation of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes committed by the person being tested.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved February 6, 2017.