A bill to be entitled

An act relating to contract carriers; amending s. 316.302, F.S.; applying specified rules and regulations to contract carriers employed by railroad companies; requiring contract carrier drivers to hold a commercial driver's license; requiring contract carriers to perform alcohol and drug testing on drivers; limiting duties of contract carrier operators; requiring contract carriers to record certain information and keep certain logs for a certain time; requiring commercial for-hire carrier companies to maintain certain insurance coverage; requiring the Department of Transportation to adopt rules regulating such contract carriers; requiring the department to inform contract carriers and railroad companies of applicable requirements and statutes; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (8) through (11) of section 316.302, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (9) through (12), respectively, current subsection (8) is amended, and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

316.302 Commercial motor vehicles; safety regulations; transporters and shippers of hazardous materials; enforcement.--

(8) This section also applies to all contract carriers operating in this state and regularly employed by any railroad company. In addition:

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(a) Each contract carrier driver must hold a commercial driver's license.

- (b) Such contract carriers shall perform alcohol and drug testing on drivers before employment, on suspicion of drug or alcohol use, and randomly at least once every 365 days.
- (c) Contract carrier operators must not perform duties in excess of 14 hours per shift, with a total driving time of 12 hours, and shall have a minimum of 10 hours rest between shifts.
- (d) Contract carriers shall keep logs, signed by both the employee and the employer on a weekly basis, of hours of service recording time on duty, driving time, and total time worked per shift. The logs shall be kept by the contract carrier for a minimum of 3 years.
- (e) Commercial for-hire carrier companies must maintain a minimum liability insurance coverage of \$1,500,000 per vehicle and equivalent uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage.
- (9)(8) For the purpose of enforcing this section, any law enforcement officer of the Department of Transportation or duly appointed agent who holds a current safety inspector certification from the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance may require the driver of any commercial vehicle operated on the highways of this state to stop and submit to an inspection of the vehicle or the driver's records. If the vehicle or driver is found to be operating in an unsafe condition, or if any required part or equipment is not present or is not in proper repair or adjustment, and the continued operation would present an unduly hazardous operating condition, the officer may require the vehicle or the driver to be removed from service pursuant to the

North American Uniform Out-of-Service Criteria, until corrected. However, if continuous operation would not present an unduly hazardous operating condition, the officer may give written notice requiring correction of the condition within 14 days.

- (a) Any member of the Florida Highway Patrol or any law enforcement officer employed by a sheriff's office or municipal police department authorized to enforce the traffic laws of this state pursuant to s. 316.640 who has reason to believe that a vehicle or driver is operating in an unsafe condition may, as provided in subsection (11) (10), enforce the provisions of this section.
- (b) Any person who fails to comply with an officer's request to submit to an inspection under this subsection commits a violation of s. 843.02 if the person resists the officer without violence or a violation of s. 843.01 if the person resists the officer with violence.
- Section 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall adopt rules regulating contract carriers employed by railroad companies operating in this state.
  - (2) Rules adopted under this section must, at a minimum:
- (a) Require each contract carrier driver to hold a commercial driver's license.
- (b) Require employers of the drivers to perform alcohol and drug testing on drivers before employment, on suspicion of drug or alcohol use, and randomly at least once every 365 days.
- (c) Incorporate all statutory requirements for carriers, including, at a minimum, the requirements of section 316.302, Florida Statutes, and rules adopted under that section.

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(d) Provide that contract carrier operators must not perform duties in excess of 14 hours per shift, with a total driving time of 12 hours, and must have a minimum of 10 hours of rest between shifts.

- (e) Require contract carriers to keep logs, signed by both the employee and the employer on a weekly basis, of hours of service recording time on duty, driving time, and total time worked per shift, and require the logs be kept by the contract carrier for a minimum of 3 years.
- (f) Require commercial for-hire carrier companies to maintain a minimum liability insurance coverage of \$1,500,000 per vehicle and equivalent uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage.
- (3) The Department of Transportation shall inform contract carriers and railroad companies in this state of the applicable requirements and statutes.
  - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.