

required to provide supporting information about its corporate structure to Nasdaq.

## 2. Statutory Basis

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of section 15A of the Act,<sup>8</sup> in general, and section 15A(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>9</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the NASD operates or controls.

### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Nasdaq does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

### C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

## III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding, or (ii) as to which the NASD consents, the Commission will:

(A) By order approve such proposed rule change; or

(B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

## IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington DC 20549-0609. Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the

proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filings will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the NASD. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NASD-2003-48 and should be submitted by May 12, 2003.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Margaret H. McFarland,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 03-9698 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8010-01-P**

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**[Declaration of Disaster No. P007, Amdt. No. 1]**

### State of Tennessee

In accordance with a notice received from the Department of Homeland Security—Federal Emergency Management Agency, effective April 14, 2003, the above numbered declaration is hereby amended to include Hardin and Lauderdale Counties in the State of Tennessee as disaster areas due to damages caused by severe storms and flooding occurring from February 14, 2003 and continuing through February 26, 2003.

All other information remains the same, *i.e.*, the deadline for filing applications for physical damage is May 19, 2003.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 59008)

Dated: April 15, 2003.

**Herbert L. Mitchell,**

*Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.*

[FR Doc. 03-9798 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Region II Buffalo District Advisory Council; Public Meeting

The U.S. Small Business Administration Region II Advisory Council located in the geographical area of Buffalo, New York, will hold a public meeting at 10 a.m. eastern time on Wednesday, April 23, 2003 at the Transit Valley Country Club, 8920

Transit Road, East Amherst, New York to discuss such matters that may be presented by members, and staff of the U.S. Small Business Administration, or others present. Anyone wishing to make an oral presentation to the Board must contact Franklin J. Sciortino, District Director, in writing by letter or by fax no later than Monday, April, 21, 2003, in order to be put on the agenda. Franklin J. Sciortino, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, 1311 Federal Building, 111 West Huron Street, Buffalo, NY 14202. Telephone (716) 551-4301 or Fax (716) 551-4418.

**Candace H. Stoltz,**

*Director Advisory Councils.*

[FR Doc. 03-9799 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8025-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**[Public Notice 4338]**

### 30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Form DS-2038, Application for Certificate of International Educational Character; OMB Control Number 1405-0122

**AGENCY:** Department of State.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State has submitted the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. Comments should be submitted to OMB within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

*Type of Request:* Reinstatement of previously approved collection whose approval has expired.

*Originating Office:* Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA-IIP/EX/PR).

*Title of Information Collection:*

Application for Certificate of International Educational Character.

*Frequency:* Occasionally.

*Form Number:* DS-2038.

*Respondents:* Members of the public who seek a certificate of international educational character for audiovisual material.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 6.

*Average Hours Per Response:* 25 minutes.

*Total Estimated Burden:* 25 hours.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-3.

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(5).

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility.

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents may be obtained from Leslie M. Nolan, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 534, Washington, DC 20547. Public comments and questions should be directed to the State Department Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Washington, DC 20530, who may be reached on 202-395-3897.

Dated: March 31, 2003.

**James D. Whitten,**

*Executive Director, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.*

[FR Doc. 03-9777 Filed 4-18-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4710-05-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

[FMCSA Docket No. FMCSA-2002-14223]

**Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of final disposition.

**SUMMARY:** The FMCSA announces its decision to exempt 21 individuals from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). The exemptions will enable these individuals to qualify as drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce without meeting the vision standard prescribed in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

**DATES:** April 21, 2003.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information about the vision exemptions in this notice, you may contact Ms. Sandra Zywockarte, Office of Bus and Truck Standards and Operations, (202) 366-2987, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street,

SW., Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Electronic Access**

You may see all the comments online through the Document Management System (DMS) at: <http://dmses.dot.gov>.

**Background**

On March 4, 2003, the FMCSA published a Notice of its receipt of applications from 21 individuals, and requested comments from the public (68 FR 10301). The 21 individuals petitioned the FMCSA for exemptions from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce. They are: Gordon L. Apple, Stanley E. Bernard, John D. Bolding, Jr., Ronald B. Brown, Michael P. Curtin, Albion C. Doe, James M. Eads, Richard L. Elyard, Michael R. Forschino, John C. Gadowski, Richard H. Hammann, Carl M. Hill, David A. Hiller, Billy L. Johnson, Christopher J. Kane, Jack E. Kettner, Wallace F. Mahan, Sr., James R. Petre, William E. Reveal, Robert P. Sanderson, and Janusz Tyrpien.

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), the FMCSA may grant an exemption for a 2-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 statute also allows the agency to renew exemptions at the end of the 2-year period. Accordingly, the FMCSA has evaluated the 21 applications on their merits and made a determination to grant the exemptions to all of them. The comment period closed on April 3, 2003. One comment was received, and its contents were carefully considered by the FMCSA in reaching the final decision to grant the exemptions.

**Vision and Driving Experience of the Applicants**

The vision requirement in the FMCSRs provides:

A person is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle if that person has distant visual acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in each eye without corrective lenses or visual acuity separately corrected to 20/40 (Snellen) or better with corrective lenses, distant binocular acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in both eyes with or without corrective lenses, field of vision of at least 70° in the horizontal meridian in each eye, and the ability to recognize the colors of traffic signals and devices showing standard red,

green, and amber (49 CFR 391.41(b)(10)).

Since 1992, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has undertaken studies to determine if this vision standard should be amended. The final report from our medical panel recommends changing the field of vision standard from 70° to 120°, while leaving the visual acuity standard unchanged. (See Frank C. Berson, M.D., Mark C. Kuperwaser, M.D., Lloyd Paul Aiello, M.D., and James W. Rosenberg, M.D., "Visual Requirements and Commercial Drivers," October 16, 1998, filed in the docket, FHWA-98-4334.) The panel's conclusion supported the FMCSA's (and previously the FHWA's) view that the present standard is reasonable and necessary as a general standard to ensure highway safety. The FMCSA also recognizes that some drivers do not meet the vision standard, but have adapted their driving to accommodate their vision limitation and demonstrated their ability to drive safely.

The 21 applicants fall into this category. They are unable to meet the vision standard in one eye for various reasons, including amblyopia, retinal and macular scars, and loss of an eye due to trauma. In most cases, their eye conditions were not recently developed. All but eight of the applicants were either born with their vision impairments or have had them since childhood. The eight individuals who sustained their vision conditions as adults have had them for periods ranging from 5 to 30 years.

Although each applicant has one eye which does not meet the vision standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), each has at least 20/40 corrected vision in the other eye and, in a doctor's opinion, has sufficient vision to perform all the tasks necessary to operate a CMV. The doctors' opinions are supported by the applicants' possession of valid commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) or non-CDLs to operate CMVs. Before issuing CDLs, States subject drivers to knowledge and performance tests designed to evaluate their qualifications to operate a CMV. All these applicants satisfied the testing standards for their State of residence. By meeting State licensing requirements, the applicants demonstrated their ability to operate a commercial vehicle, with their limited vision, to the satisfaction of the State. The Federal interstate qualification standards, *i.e.* the FMCSRs, however, require more.

While possessing a valid CDL or non-CDL, these 21 drivers have been authorized to drive a CMV in intrastate commerce, even though their vision