



**MISSOURI GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**JEFFERSON CITY**

March 8, 2017

Honorable Donald J. Trump, President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to encourage you to take action on behalf of the people of Missouri and all Americans regarding the burdensome regulation and overreach of the federal government as it plans to implement REAL ID policy as per the REAL ID Act of 2005. According to this federal law, the citizens of our state will be forbidden from exercising several freedoms we currently enjoy such as entering military installations, entering federal buildings and flying commercially. Furthermore, we believe the REAL ID Act of 2005 sets a dangerous precedent to empower a bureaucracy to unilaterally promulgate rules that prohibit our citizens from enjoying rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

Our main concerns include:

**10<sup>th</sup> Amendment** - The 10th Amendment establishes that, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people." Historically, states have been the exclusive issuer of driver licenses and have had their own policies regarding their issuance.

**Privacy** – By creating strict federal requirements for the licensing of drivers, the REAL ID Act creates a de facto national ID and uses the states as the instruments of this policy. In addition, the storing of source documents and accessibility to such personal data increases the potential for fraud and identity theft.

**Burdensome regulations that cost millions** – REAL ID imposes a significant unfunded mandate on the states and the people. REAL ID requires millions of personal documents to be stored for 7 to 10 years. This burdensome regulation will not protect anyone; it will simply cost millions to states, which will be passed on to the people.

The concerns listed above are not new in Missouri. In 2013, the Missouri General Assembly passed legislation, which was signed by Governor Nixon, which prohibits the Department of Revenue from retaining source documents used to obtain a driver license. The 2013 law was in addition to the 2009 law passed by the Missouri General Assembly which strictly forbids the state from cooperating with the REAL ID Act. That legislation was also signed by Governor Nixon. Furthermore, in 2014, the people of Missouri passed Amendment 9 to ensure their personal privacy was not violated by our government. It is abundantly clear the people of Missouri want their privacy; they do not want arbitrary conditions set forth by the government under the guise of security. In a time of increasingly dangerous threats to our national and personal security, both physically and where our privacy is concerned, it is paramount we work even harder to protect and secure the liberty and personal freedom of the people rather than forfeit them in exchange for a bigger all-knowing government that promises to help us.

President Trump, we respectfully request your assistance in addressing the issues regarding the REAL ID Act. We ask that you and the Department of Homeland Security halt the implementation of REAL ID or grant waivers for the states that object to provisions of this burdensome legislation.

Sincerely,

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