

REAL ID FACTS – Flying, Access, Cost, and Privacy

April 26, 2016

1. The Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) confirm: **all state-issued ID's will be accepted at airports at least until January 22, 2018 and IDs from states with extensions until Oct. 1, 2020.**¹ (NOTE: the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled there's no ID mandate to fly)
2. TSA acknowledges **you can still fly without identification**. TSA has other ways to confirm your identity.² DHS and TSA acknowledge **at least 15 valid ID's** for confirming identity to fly.
3. There are **at least 7 states** operating under an **extension** despite **laws prohibiting REAL ID**. (see packet)
4. "REAL ID is a **voluntary program** for the States." – DHS Privacy Impact Assessment³
5. According to MN Dept. of Public Safety, it is much **cheaper if the state waits until 2018 to implement REAL ID**.⁴
6. REAL IDs are available to both citizens and *non-citizens* who are **valid U.S. residents**.⁵ MN Enhanced Drivers' Licenses (EDLs) are available **only to U.S. citizens** with valid MN residency.⁶
7. "**State EDLs...are acceptable for official federal purposes**, such as" flying or entering a federal facility."⁷
8. Section 202(d)(12) of the REAL ID Act requires each state to provide **electronic access** to the information in its **motor vehicle databases to all the other states**.⁸ However that requirement, written in the *proposed* rule, was deleted from the *final* rule. The REAL ID statute, however, still has the "all other States" requirement.
9. "**Storing personal information in a uniform and standardized manner**, such as the information on individuals possessing REAL ID credentials, poses a **significant security risk** given the value of this collection of information."⁹ – DHS Privacy Office
10. "The **REAL ID's unique number could pose the same, if not greater, risks** as experienced in the social security number."¹⁰ – DHS Privacy Impact Assessment
11. The "hub" is a "centralized verification system," a "**central repository**" for "this sensitive collection of PII" "held in the hub" for "State-to-State data checks or to permit access by authorized law enforcement..."¹¹
12. Missouri received a **\$17 million "hub" development grant** in 2008. Four states received \$1.2 million to connect.¹²
13. DHS Privacy Office encourages States to include a "**breach notification**" process.¹³
14. "State DMVs will **still face the challenge of detecting falsified** source documents..." (DHS)¹⁴; "GAO investigators were able to use counterfeit out-of-state drivers' licenses and birth certificates to **fraudulently obtain licenses** in three states." – GAO, 2012¹⁵; The REAL ID State-to-State verification system for preventing fraud not expected **until 2023** – GAO, 2012¹⁶
15. **No States are using** the system for verifying date of birth (EVVE) due to incomplete information – GAO, 2012¹⁷
16. "Third parties such as financial institutions, retailers, hotels, **health-care providers**, and others may consider the REAL ID credential to be more reliable... and may begin to **request this credential**." – DHS Privacy Office¹⁸
17. **Database Access Costs**: "States must pay \$0.05 for each SSOLV query" (GAO); States are charged \$0.50 for an initial or second SAVE verification request, and up to \$2 for third requests."(GAO); Illinois expects a cost of "**\$100 to \$150 million** for staffing, equipment and data storage" & "**\$3.75 million each year**" to utilize the birth certificate verification system.¹⁹

1 <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id-public-faqs>
2 <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>
3 https://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/privacy/privacy_pia_realidfr.pdf
4 http://www.senate.mn/committees/2015-2016/3067_Committee_on_Transportation_and_Public_Safety/Real%20ID%20report%20draft%20FF.pdf
5 <https://www.dhs.gov/western-hemisphere-travel-initiative-basics>
6 <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/forms-documents/Documents/EDL-EID-Identification-Requirements.pdf>
7 <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id-faq-implementation>
8 https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/privacy_pia_realid_1.pdf
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