



November 6, 2025

U.S. Senator Rand Paul, M.D.
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
295 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

RE: Request for Senate Hearing on S. 2769 to Repeal the REAL ID Act of 2005

Dear Chairman Paul,

Thank you for introducing the **Safeguarding Personal Information Act (S. 2769)** to repeal the REAL ID Act of 2005. As a broad coalition of organizations (pages 2-4), state legislators (pages 4-5), and concerned individuals committed to protecting constitutional liberty, privacy, and state sovereignty in America, we respectfully **request that you convene a hearing in the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs** at the earliest possible date to fully examine the dangers posed by this federal mandate.

The REAL ID Act was passed without a full debate and is now evolving into a biometric-controlled federal digital ID for an unconstitutional domestic passport system. The 2005 law authorizes the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to unilaterally expand the “official purposes” for which a REAL ID is required, paving the way to limitless federal control over and tracking of core aspects of American life. Beyond its original focus on access to federal buildings and commercial flight, REAL ID will likely become a:

1. De facto Unique Patient ID (UPI) to access medical care (“no card, no care”)
2. Digitized vaccine passport
3. Link to a global digital ID system
4. Credential to bank, attend college, buy firearms, vote, access Social Security, etc.

In testimony before Congress on December 5, 2023, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) confirmed plans to digitize REAL ID, install it on mobile phones, and allow remote access to citizens’ credentials. State DMV databases for digital IDs open the door to unprecedented tracking, even the creation of a “social credit” system in America, with carbon use tracking and taxation, and imposition of “15-minute cities.”

As you know, the DHS has set May 5, 2027 as the deadline for full enforcement of card compliance nationwide. Despite DHS’s two-year ‘progressive enforcement’ rule, DHS officials and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) **continue to claim REAL ID was and is required to fly (as of May 7, 2025), pressuring Americans into compliance** – in violation of 4th and 10th Amendment rights. Relatively little is said about the **other 15 TSA-acceptable IDs** Americans can use to fly.

REAL ID has been controversial from the beginning, starting on the U.S. Senate floor in May 2005 when Republicans and Democrats alike assailed the surprise attachment of the REAL ID Act to a “must pass” defense spending bill.

As noted in the *Congressional Record* of the U.S. Senate, **Senators Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Patty Murray (D-WA)**, and others noted the lack of proper debate, the lack of conference committee action, and the lack of a proper vote by the Senate.

Sen. Alexander: **“This really is a National Identification card for the United States of America for the first time in our history. We’ve never done this before, and we shouldn’t be doing it without a full debate...I’m very, very reluctant for this country to have a National ID card . . .”**

The grave constitutional implications and the bipartisan concerns raised by state governors, state legislators, and America citizens since the beginning remain. Initially many states passed laws to prohibit compliance. After President Obama claimed a REAL ID was required to fly, 116 Pennsylvania legislators wrote President Trump: **“By federalizing driver licensing the REAL ID Act usurps this power which has been reserved to the states.”** They noted the usurpation of state’s rights, the unfunded mandate, and privacy violations.

URGENT REQUEST: As the clock ticks and pressure mounts, we believe it is imperative for the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs hold a hearing on S. 2769.

As the UK threatens to withhold income from citizens who refuse a digital ID, Americans need to hear and see the REAL ID for what it is: a **digital federal ID**, not a state driver’s license with a star. They must learn of TSA and DMV plans for the future, and the dangers of a Federal ID system with power to control transactions, access, and movement nationwide.

We, as organizations, legislators, and citizens, stand ready to assist your office in preparing testimony, providing witnesses, and mobilizing grassroots support. We are united in our belief that the federal digital REAL ID system is a very serious threat to freedom in America and must be repealed before it becomes entrenched.

Thank you for your leadership in protecting civil liberties and federalism. We respectfully urge you to schedule a hearing on S. 2769 as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



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Co-founder and President
Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom

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