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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ISSUED IDENTIFICATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that to access basic  
2 needs and fully participate in modern society, it is essential  
3 for individuals to have the ability to establish one's identity  
4 and obtain and maintain valid government issued identification.

5           The legislature further finds that government agencies and  
6 other private entities rely upon valid government issued  
7 identification or other vital records to verify identity and  
8 guard against fraud and other wrongdoing.

9           In response to the terrorist acts of September 11, 2001,  
10 and the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, Congress enacted  
11 the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109-13. The REAL ID Act  
12 established minimum security standards for license issuance and  
13 production and prohibits federal agencies from accepting for  
14 certain purposes driver's licenses and identification cards from  
15 states not meeting the REAL ID Act's minimum standards. The  
16 specific purposes covered by the REAL ID Act are: accessing  
17 federal facilities, entering nuclear power plants, and, no



1 sooner than 2016, boarding federally regulated commercial  
2 aircraft.

3 The State of Hawaii has established the necessary minimum  
4 security standards and is in compliance with the REAL ID Act.

5 The legislature passed Act 172, Session Laws of Hawaii  
6 2015, which created a limited purpose driver's license, limited  
7 purpose provisional driver's license, and limited purpose  
8 instruction permit. However, the limited purpose driver's  
9 licenses, limited purpose provisional driver's licenses, and  
10 limited purpose instruction permits are not acceptable for  
11 federal identification and voting purposes. The limited purpose  
12 driver's license requires satisfactory proof of identity and  
13 Hawaii residency.

14 In 2015, the legislature also passed Act 243, Session Laws  
15 of Hawaii 2015, which provides a process by which a homeless  
16 individual may establish a principal address and request a fee  
17 waiver from the examiner of drivers to obtain an original or  
18 renewal identification card.

19 Act 243, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, also created a  
20 working group to "conduct research and develop a plan to enable  
21 individuals in the State who are unable to produce documentation



1 required for a state civil identification card to obtain  
2 satisfactory documentary evidence." Working group members met  
3 and clarified issues that were presented in the written  
4 testimony submitted to the legislature for the underlying S.B.  
5 No. 273. The working group also conducted informal research  
6 regarding issues that homeless individuals face in replacing  
7 government issued identification.

8 Service providers reported that: homeless individuals lack  
9 sufficient funds to pay fees required to obtain replacement  
10 documentation required for the government issued identification;  
11 the most common request for document replacement assistance are  
12 from individuals from the United States mainland; for certain  
13 individuals who have mental health or substance abuse histories,  
14 tracking down basic information such as their current name or  
15 place of birth may be a lengthy process; because verification  
16 processes have changed, there may be a growing population of  
17 elderly that will have difficulty updating their government  
18 issued identification; and lastly, individuals often require  
19 legal assistance to navigate the processes of different  
20 jurisdictions and access systems.



1           The legislature finds that vulnerable populations, such as  
2 the elderly, low income individuals, individuals experiencing  
3 homelessness, recently released prisoners, and other vulnerable  
4 individuals, should be able to maintain current government  
5 issued identification.

6           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
7 homeless programs office of the department of human services to  
8 develop or expand homeless services, including assistance and  
9 public outreach for individuals to obtain and maintain  
10 government issued identification.

11           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$           or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
14 homeless programs office to develop or expand homeless services,  
15 including assistance and public outreach for individuals to  
16 obtain and maintain government issued identification.

17           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
18 human services for the purposes of this Act.

19           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Government Issued Identification; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the Homeless Programs Office of the Department of Human Services for services to help the homeless obtain government issued identification. (HB2162 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

