



Department of the Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles

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Secretary of State

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Deputy Secretary of State

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

L.D. 1360 "An Act to Preserve Traditional Driver's Licenses and Nondriver Identification Cards"

Testimony of Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State and
Cathie Curtis, Deputy Secretary for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles,
Department of the Secretary of State

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Senator Nangle, Representative Crafts, Members of the Transportation Committee, I am providing testimony neither for nor against L.D. 1360 "An Act to Preserve Traditional Driver's Licenses and Nondriver Identification Cards" and to provide you with information that may be useful to you.

As written, L.D. 1360 would not incur any process, program or fiscal burden upon the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. Indeed, it does nothing that the Secretary of State does not already do. Every day, we issue driver licenses and ID cards that are not REAL IDs to those Mainers who do not choose a REAL ID. We wouldn't want to suggest that anything in current law prevents us from doing so.

While that responsibility certainly already exists in the current edition of Title 29-A, our Department does recognize and support the sponsor's intent to ensure a federal credential standard—such as REAL ID—would not become mandatory in the future. An alternative or standard license or identification card is an important option to preserve for Mainers, in terms of both financial cost and documentation requirements. We do not object to this bill, which adds new language to reinforce the Bureau's existing authority to issue non-REAL ID licenses and identification cards to Mainers up on request.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If the committee has any questions, I'd be more than happy to answer them or conduct the appropriate research. I will be available for the work session.