



# Info Alert

## National Conference of State Legislatures Office of State-Federal Relations

### DHS Announces New REAL ID Compliance Extensions for States

October 14, 2016

On Oct. 13, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) [announced](#) updates for the 32 states and territories that are not currently in compliance with REAL ID (DHS has [determined](#) that 23 states and the District of Columbia are fully compliant).

Of the 32 non-compliant states and territories, 17 were granted one-year extensions, through October 10, 2017, while four states were granted extensions through June 6, 2017. An additional state and two territories remain under review for a possible extension into 2017. Minnesota, Missouri and Washington, which did not receive an extension in 2016, were also not granted an extension for any part of 2017.

Most importantly, DHS announced that Kentucky, Maine, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and South Carolina would not be receiving a renewed extension, which will result in residents in these five states not being able to use their driver's licenses to access secure federal buildings, nuclear power plants or military bases after January 30, 2017. Additionally, residents from these states will not be able to use their driver's license to get through airport security beginning Jan. 22, 2018, unless DHS provides an additional extension or announces that they are in compliance.

Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, every air traveler will need a REAL ID-compliant license, or another acceptable form of identification, for domestic air travel.

It is important to note that individuals do not need to adjust any immediate travel plans as the earliest that a resident from a non-compliant state would be impacted is Jan. 22, 2018. Furthermore, passengers can continue to use any of the various other forms of identification accepted by TSA (such as a Passport or Passport Card, Global Entry card, U.S. military ID, airline or airport-issued ID, federally recognized tribal-issued photo ID).

See [TSA's website](#) for a list of all other acceptable forms of identification. DHS will be conducting outreach to educate the traveling public about the timeline, and continuing engagement with states regarding REAL ID standards.

Earlier this year, DHS took part in a briefing for state legislators and state legislative staff concerning REAL ID compliance. DHS released a set of PowerPoint slides that accompanied the briefing, which can be accessed [here](#). You can also [listen to a recording of the briefing](#).

For additional information, including past legislation on REAL ID, please see NCSL's Countdown to REAL ID webpage. Additionally, NCSL staff [Ben Husch](#) (202-624-7779) and [Molly Ramsdell](#) (202-624-3584) can assist any legislators or legislative staff in connecting with DHS REAL ID staff.