

AAMVA Legislative/Regulatory Alert

To: Chief Motor Vehicle Officials
Chief Law Enforcement Officials

FR: Ian Grossman, Vice President of Member Services and Public Affairs

Date: September 19, 2012

RE: DHS Issues Secure Identification State Progress Report

In late August, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a report to Congress entitled “Secure Identification State Progress,” which was prepared by their Office of Policy for fiscal year 2012. The report was compiled pursuant to language included in the report accompanying the FY 2012 DHS Appropriations Act (P.L. 112-74). This report essentially summarizes, from a DHS perspective, state submissions regarding compliance or non-compliance with the Real ID Act of 2005.

DHS notes in their executive summary that they must rely on grant reporting information to document the progress made by states in improving the security of their driver’s licenses and identification cards commensurate with the standards of the Real ID Act. **With this in mind, AAMVA encourages all U.S. jurisdictions (*regardless of intent towards Real ID compliance*) to review what DHS has collected through grant reporting information and ensure that information corroborates with the true intentions and progress of your state.** AAMVA also encourages the U.S. jurisdictions to update DHS on any discrepancies. Because this report could serve as a baseline for perception of state progress in improving credential security, it is important the information being conveyed to Congress is consistent across DHS and state lines.

To assist jurisdictions who have not yet submitted any status updates, AAMVA will soon publish a template that states can choose to use as they see fit to aid them in submitting an update to DHS on their progress toward producing a more secure ID credential.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact AAMVA’s Senior Manager of Government Affairs, Cian Cashin, at ccashin@aamva.org or (703) 908-8276.