

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 168**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 23, 2020

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman WILLIAM F. MOEN, JR.
District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Urges federal government to extend “REAL ID Act of 2005” deadline.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** urging the federal government to
2 extend the deadline for the “REAL ID Act of 2005.”
3

4 **WHEREAS**, In 2005, the United States Congress passed the “REAL ID
5 Act of 2005,” Pub.L.109-13 to implement certain recommendations
6 from the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the
7 United States, including setting federal standards for the issuance of
8 certain identification, including state-issued driver’s licenses and
9 identification cards; and

10 **WHEREAS**, “The REAL ID Act of 2005” establishes minimum
11 standards for identification and prohibits federal agencies from
12 accepting non-compliant identification for the purpose of accessing
13 federal facilities, entering nuclear power plants, and boarding
14 federally regulated commercial aircraft; and

15 **WHEREAS**, After the federal deadline of October 1, 2020, a person
16 must present a REAL ID compliant state-issued driver’s license or
17 identification card or other acceptable form of identification in
18 order to access these facilities and board federally regulated
19 commercial aircraft; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission began issuing
21 REAL ID compliant State driver’s licenses and identification cards
22 in 2019 and, according to the commission’s annual report, the
23 commission has issued approximately 7,000 REAL ID compliant
24 identifications; and

25 **WHEREAS**, On January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the United States
26 Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health
27 emergency for the United States in response to the rapid spread of a
28 novel respiratory illness, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-
29 19), throughout the country; and

30 **WHEREAS**, On March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy declared
31 and proclaimed the existence of a public health emergency and state
32 of emergency in the State of New Jersey in order to protect the
33 health, safety and welfare of the people of New Jersey; and

34 **WHEREAS**, According to the New Jersey Department of Health, there
35 are 98 reported cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, including two
36 deaths as of March 15, 2020; and

37 **WHEREAS**, Due to COVID-19 outbreak, starting Monday, March 16,
38 2020, all New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission agencies, road
39 testing, and inspection facilities are closed for approximately two
40 weeks; and

41 **WHEREAS**, The closure of New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission
42 agencies and facilities during the COVID-19 public health
43 emergency significantly limits the amount of time New Jersey
44 residents may apply for and receive REAL ID compliant driver’s
45 licenses and identification cards in preparation for the October 1,
46 2020 federal deadline; and

47 **WHEREAS**, Taking into account the effect that the COVID-19 outbreak
48 has on the availability of receiving REAL ID compliant driver’s

1 licenses and identification cards by the October 1, 2020 deadline, it
2 is altogether fitting and proper for the Legislature of the State of
3 New Jersey to urge the federal government to extend the deadline
4 for the “REAL ID Act of 2005”; now, therefore,

5
6 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
7 *Jersey (the Senate concurring):*
8

9 1. The Legislature urges the federal government to extend the
10 deadline for the “REAL ID Act of 2005” amid the coronavirus
11 disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency to provide New
12 Jersey residents more time to apply for and receive State-issued
13 driver’s licenses and identification cards that comply with the
14 provisions of the “REAL ID Act of 2005,” Pub.L.109-13.
15

16 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
17 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the
18 Secretary of the Senate to the President of the United States,
19 Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security,
20 Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, Speaker
21 and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives,
22 and each member of the United States Congress elected from this
23 State.
24

25
26 STATEMENT
27

28 Due to the public health emergency caused by the outbreak of
29 the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), this concurrent
30 resolution urges the federal government to extend the deadline for
31 the “REAL ID Act of 2005” (the Act). On October 1, 2020, federal
32 agencies are prohibited from accepting state-issued identification
33 that does not comply with the provisions of the Act for the purposes
34 of accessing federal facilities, boarding federally regulated
35 commercial aircraft, and entering nuclear power plants.