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Congress of the United States
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May 8, 2007

The Honorable Michael Chertoff
Secretary of Homeland Security
Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20528

Re: Docket #DHS-2006-0030 Minimum Standards for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards Acceptable by Federal Agencies for Federal Purposes

Dear Secretary Chertoff:

I have serious concerns about the federal mandates for state drivers' licenses as established by Title II of the REAL ID Act and as addressed in the proposed rule issued by the Department of Homeland Security. In particular, the proposed rules do not adequately address the burden that implementation of the statute has placed on the states; do not offer sufficient guidance to the states on the creation of a nationwide system containing the states' data on individuals who hold drivers' licenses or identification cards; do not provide for privacy protection within the interlinked state systems that will contain personal information about hundreds of millions of Americans; and will not significantly lower the estimated costs of implementation, which run upwards of \$180 million in Maine alone.

Separately, Maine Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap has submitted comments on the proposed rule on behalf of the State (also attached). Please accept this letter as indication of my support of his comments related to the matters above.

Sincerely,

Tom Allen
Member of Congress

THA:msw