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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To establish a grant program to assist States in providing identification cards compliant with Federal standards at no cost to low-income individuals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. FEDORCHAK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish a grant program to assist States in providing identification cards compliant with Federal standards at no cost to low-income individuals.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “SAVE America
5 Through REAL ID Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to ensure that all eligible
8 individuals, regardless of income, have access to identifica-

1 tion documents that meet Federal election standards by
2 supporting State efforts to eliminate financial barriers to
3 obtaining such identification.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL.**—The term “low-
7 income individual” means an individual whose
8 household income is not more than 200 percent of
9 the Federal poverty level, or who participates in a
10 means-tested public assistance program, as deter-
11 mined by the State.

12 (2) **REAL ID-COMPLIANT IDENTIFICATION.**—
13 The term “REAL ID-compliant identification”
14 means a driver’s license or identification card issued
15 by a State that meets the requirements of Federal
16 law for official purposes.

17 (3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of Homeland Security.

19 (4) **STATE.**—The term “State” means any of
20 the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico,
21 and any territory or possession of the United States.

22 **SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.**

23 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a
24 grant program to provide funds to States to cover the

1 costs associated with issuing REAL ID-compliant identi-
2 fication at no cost to low-income individuals.

3 (b) ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—A State receiving
4 a grant under this section may use funds to—

5 (1) waive application and issuance fees for eligi-
6 ble individuals;

7 (2) cover administrative costs associated with
8 processing applications;

9 (3) conduct nonpartisan public awareness ac-
10 tivities directly related to REAL ID eligibility and
11 application procedures;

12 (4) provide mobile or remote services to obtain
13 REAL ID's in underserved areas; and

14 (5) assist applicants in obtaining required sup-
15 porting documentation.

16 **SEC. 5. STATE APPLICATIONS.**

17 (a) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—To receive a grant
18 under this Act, a State shall submit an application to the
19 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing
20 such information as the Secretary may require.

21 (b) CONTENTS.—Each application shall include—

22 (1) a description of how the State will identify
23 and verify eligible individuals;

24 (2) a plan to eliminate fees for such individuals;

1 (3) outreach strategies to promote broad aware-
2 ness; and

3 (4) assurances of compliance with applicable
4 Federal and State privacy and security laws.

5 **SEC. 6. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.**

6 (a) **FORMULA.**—The Secretary shall allocate funds to
7 States based on—

8 (1) the population of low-income individuals in
9 the State; and

10 (2) the demonstrated need for increased access
11 to compliant identification.

12 (b) **MINIMUM ALLOCATION.**—Each State receiving a
13 grant shall receive not less than a minimum allocation,
14 as determined by the Secretary.

15 **SEC. 7. REPORTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY.**

16 (a) **STATE REPORTS.**—Each State receiving funds
17 shall annually submit to the Secretary a report detailing—

18 (1) the number of identification cards issued at
19 no cost;

20 (2) demographic data, as permitted by law;

21 (3) outreach activities conducted; and

22 (4) expenditures of grant funds.

23 (b) **FEDERAL REPORT.**—The Secretary shall submit
24 to Congress an annual report summarizing program out-
25 comes and effectiveness.

1 (c) AUDITS.—Funds provided under this Act shall be
2 subject to audit by appropriate Federal oversight entities.

3 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

4 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
5 this Act \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027 through
6 2031.

7 **SEC. 9. RULEMAKING.**

8 The Secretary may promulgate such regulations as
9 are necessary to carry out this Act.