

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4852

To require the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration to produce and make available at no cost to certain individuals in the United States an identification for the purpose of allowing such individuals to meet certain identification requirements, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2023

Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. BUSH, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. TLAI, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CHU, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

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## A BILL

To require the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration to produce and make available at no cost to certain individuals in the United States an identification for the purpose of allowing such individuals to meet certain identification requirements, and for other purposes.

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 “IDs for an Inclusive  
5 Democracy Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the  
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of  
4 the Social Security Administration shall produce and  
5 make available at no cost to individuals in the United  
6 States who submit an application under subsection (f) an  
7 identification pursuant to the requirements in the report  
8 issued by the Task Force on Federal Identification Cards  
9 under section 3(i) that can be presented by such individ-  
10 uals to satisfy certain identification requirements.

11 (b) USE OF IDENTIFICATION.—With respect to an in-  
12 dividual, the identification described in subsection (a) shall  
13 be deemed sufficient to satisfy identification requirements  
14 to the same extent and for the same purposes that any  
15 driver’s license or identification card issued by a State is  
16 accepted to satisfy such requirements.

17 (c) CONTENT OF IDENTIFICATION.—With respect to  
18 an individual, the identification described in subsection (a)  
19 shall include—

20 (1) the full name of the individual;

21 (2) the date of birth of the individual;

22 (3) the gender of the individual, which shall in-  
23 clude an option for male, female, and X (rep-  
24 resenting an unspecified or other gender identity), as  
25 attested by the individual;

26 (4) a photograph of the individual;

1           (5) a unique identification number;

2           (6) the date the identification was issued to the  
3 individual; and

4           (7) the date on which the identification is no  
5 longer valid.

6           (d) SECURITY FEATURES OF IDENTIFICATION.—The  
7 identification described in subsection (a) shall include—

8           (1) physical security features to make the iden-  
9 tification resistant to tampering, counterfeiting, du-  
10 plicating, and fraudulent use; and

11           (2) common machine-readable identity informa-  
12 tion based on defined minimum data elements as de-  
13 termined by the Task Force on Federal Identifica-  
14 tion Cards established under section 3(a).

15           (e) PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF IDENTIFICATION.—

16           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
17 graph (2), with respect to an individual, the identi-  
18 fication described in subsection (a) shall be valid for  
19 the 10-year period which begins on the date the  
20 identification is issued by the Commissioner of the  
21 Social Security Administration to the individual.

22           (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN INDIVID-  
23 UALS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in the case  
24 of an individual with a valid identification—

1 (A) who is under the age of 18, such iden-  
2 tification shall only be valid during the period  
3 beginning on the date the identification is  
4 issued to the individual and ending on the date  
5 the individual reaches the age of 18, after  
6 which the individual may submit an application  
7 for a renewal under subsection (f)(2); and

8 (B) who reaches 65 years of age or older  
9 during the period the identification is valid, the  
10 identification of such individual shall be deemed  
11 valid upon the expiration of the 10-year validity  
12 period for such identification without requiring  
13 a renewal of such identification.

14 (f) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—To receive an identification  
16 under this section, an individual who is at least 14  
17 years of age or older shall submit an application at  
18 such time and containing such information as the  
19 Task Force on Federal Identification Cards estab-  
20 lished under section 3(a) determines appropriate.

21 (2) RENEWAL APPLICATION.—To receive a re-  
22 newal of the identification described in subsection  
23 (a), an individual shall submit an application at such  
24 time and containing such information as the Task  
25 Force on Federal Identification Cards established

1 under section 3(a) determines appropriate, except  
2 that an individual shall not be required to provide  
3 documents that include the personally identifiable in-  
4 formation of such individual unless any of such per-  
5 sonally identifiable information has changed with re-  
6 spect to the most recent application submitted by  
7 the individual.

8 (g) PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.—Not later than  
9 6 months before the date the identification is made avail-  
10 able to individuals under subsection (a), the Commissioner  
11 of the Social Security Administration shall develop and  
12 implement a campaign to educate the public with respect  
13 to the identification described in subsection (a), including  
14 how an individual can receive and use such an identifica-  
15 tion to satisfy certain identification requirements.

16 (h) POSTAL SERVICE APPLICATION PROCESS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after  
18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Post-  
19 master General of the United States Postal Service  
20 shall, in consultation with the Commissioner of the  
21 Social Security Administration, develop and imple-  
22 ment a process pursuant to the requirements of  
23 paragraph (2) that enables individuals to apply for  
24 the identification described in subsection (a) through  
25 the United States Postal Service, including a process

1 with respect to an application for a first-time identi-  
2 fication and a renewal of such identification, which  
3 shall be modeled after the process with respect to  
4 applications for a passport through the Postal Serv-  
5 ice.

6 (2) PROCESS REQUIREMENTS.—The process de-  
7 veloped under paragraph (1) shall include, with re-  
8 spect to an individual, an option to—

9 (A) receive full service at a post office loca-  
10 tion, including by providing photography serv-  
11 ices at no cost to the individual;

12 (B) submit an application online through  
13 the website of the Postal Service;

14 (C) mail a written application described in  
15 subsection (f) through the mail service of the  
16 Postal Service at no cost to the individual; and

17 (D) with respect to an approved identifica-  
18 tion of an individual, receive such identification  
19 through mail service to the individual’s address  
20 or a post office location, at the option of the in-  
21 dividual.

22 (i) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
23 “State” means each of the several States, the District of  
24 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United

1 States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the  
2 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

3 **SEC. 3. TASK FORCE ON FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a Task  
5 Force on Federal Identification Cards (in this section re-  
6 ferred to as the “Task Force”) for the purpose of deter-  
7 mining the requirements to produce and make available  
8 the identification described in section 2(a).

9 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall be com-  
10 posed of at least 9 members as follows:

11 (1) The Commissioner of the Social Security  
12 Administration.

13 (2) At least 1 representative from the Election  
14 Assistance Commission.

15 (3) At least 1 representative from the Domestic  
16 Policy Council.

17 (4) At least 1 representative from the United  
18 States Postal Service.

19 (5) At least 1 representative from the Con-  
20 sumer Financial Protection Bureau.

21 (6) At least 1 representative from the Depart-  
22 ment of Housing and Urban Development.

23 (7) At least 1 representative from the Depart-  
24 ment of Education.

1           (8) At least 1 representative from the Depart-  
2           ment of Labor.

3           (9) At least 1 representative from the Depart-  
4           ment of Veterans Affairs.

5           (10) The Commissioner of the Social Security  
6           Administration, in collaboration with the representa-  
7           tives described in paragraphs (2) through (9), may  
8           appoint such other individuals with relevant exper-  
9           tise or experience as the Task Force shall determine  
10          appropriate and the Task Force shall, with respect  
11          to any such appointees, make efforts to ensure that  
12          populations that have been disproportionately af-  
13          fected by the lack of access to identification are rep-  
14          resented.

15          (c) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—All appoint-  
16          ments to the Task Force shall be made not later than 8  
17          months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

18          (d) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the Task Force  
19          shall be filled in the same manner as the original appoint-  
20          ment.

21          (e) PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION OF FEDERAL  
22          EMPLOYEES.—Members of the Task Force who are full-  
23          time officers or employees of the United States may not  
24          receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason  
25          of their service on the Task Force.



1 (f) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Except as provided in sub-  
2 section (e), each member shall receive travel expenses, in-  
3 cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with  
4 applicable provisions under subchapter I of chapter 57 of  
5 title 5, United States Code.

6 (g) SUPPORT STAFF; ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.—

7 (1) SUPPORT STAFF.—The Commissioner of the  
8 Social Security Administration, any representatives  
9 from the Election Assistance Commission, and any  
10 representatives from the Domestic Policy Council  
11 shall provide support staff for the Task Force.

12 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.—Upon the re-  
13 quest of the Task Force, the Commissioner of the  
14 Social Security Administration, any representatives  
15 from the Election Assistance Commission, and any  
16 representatives from the Domestic Policy Council  
17 shall provide any information, administrative serv-  
18 ices, and supplies that such Commissioner and rep-  
19 resentatives jointly consider necessary for the Task  
20 Force to carry out its duties under this section.

21 (h) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL ADVISORY  
22 COMMITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act  
23 (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Task Force.

24 (i) REPORT ON REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCING  
25 AND MAKING IDENTIFICATIONS AVAILABLE.—

1           (1) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the  
2           date of the enactment of this Act, the Task Force  
3           shall issue a report regarding the requirements to  
4           produce and make available the identification de-  
5           scribed in section 2(a).

6           (2) PROHIBITING UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE  
7           OF INFORMATION.—The Task Force shall include in  
8           the report issued under this subsection a require-  
9           ment that the Commissioner of Social Security and  
10          the Postmaster General shall establish procedures to  
11          prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any informa-  
12          tion obtained with respect to individuals who seek  
13          assistance in obtaining the identification described in  
14          section 2(a).

15          (j) DEVELOPMENT OF VOLUNTARY BEST PRAC-  
16          TICES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enact-  
17          ment of this Act, the Task Force shall develop and publish  
18          recommendations for voluntary best practices for non-  
19          profit organizations and entities that provide services to  
20          vulnerable populations with respect to how such organiza-  
21          tions and entities can assist individuals to obtain the iden-  
22          tification described in section 2(a), which shall include—

23                (1) recommendations with respect to how such  
24                organizations and entities can provide full service to  
25                individuals to obtain such identification; and

1           (2) recommendations to minimize the barriers  
2           faced by such individuals, including individuals from  
3           groups which have been disproportionately affected  
4           by the lack of access to identification, in obtaining  
5           documentation of the information necessary to ob-  
6           tain the identification.

7           (k) TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall terminate  
8           on the date the identification is made available to individ-  
9           uals under section 2(a).

10 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11           There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
12           as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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