



# Homeland Security

May 13, 2016

The Honorable Mark Dayton  
Governor  
116 Veterans Service Building  
20 West 12th Street  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Dayton:

Thank you for your April 11, 2016 letter. Secretary Johnson asked that we respond on his behalf.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) commends the State of Minnesota's efforts resulting in the enactment of legislation that permits the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to begin planning to implement the requirements of the REAL ID Act and regulation. We recognize this change as a positive step forward.

However, while the enacted legislation allows the state to undertake planning, it does not change the prohibition in state law against "taking any action to implement" REAL ID or directly address the remaining unmet standards. Until Minnesota demonstrates that it has the legal authority to implement the requirements of the REAL ID Act and commits to full compliance, DHS is unable to grant a request for extension. We have attached the latest version of our findings for your convenience.

Minnesota may renew its extension request if, as mentioned in your correspondence, it enacts legislation authorizing compliance with the REAL ID Act and provides a path forward for implementing the unmet standards.

The Department stands ready to provide Minnesota with any technical assistance that may be necessary to comply with the requirements of the REAL ID Act and regulation. Please do not hesitate to contact DHS's Office of State Issued Identification Support at (202) 447-3871 with any questions or comments about this notification.

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For all other homeland security matters, you may contact the DHS Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 282-9310.

Sincerely,



Alan D. Bersin  
Assistant Secretary  
for International Affairs  
& Chief Diplomatic Officer  
Office of Policy



Philip A. McNamara  
Assistant Secretary  
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

cc: Mona Dohman, Commissioner of Public Safety

Enclosure