

**Testimony**

**REAL ID Impact: Access to Military Installations**  
**Senate Communications and Technology Committee**  
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Good morning, Senators Aument, Haywood and members of the Senate Communications and Technology Committee. I am honored to be here today to discuss impacts if Pennsylvania does not comply with the federal REAL ID Act.

The REAL ID Act affects only access control policies where individuals are required to present an identification document for accessing federal facilities, entering nuclear power plants or boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft. The federal REAL ID Act implementation rules allow for exceptions. For example, life or safety issues such as medical emergencies and situations in which physical access is necessary to apply for benefits are two exceptions that would affect military installation access.

As of June 7, 2017, those attempting to gain physical access to United States Department of Defense (DoD) installations must show an alternate form of identification, such as a passport unless another extension is granted by the Department of Homeland Security. Service members, family members, DoD employees, and federal employees with the DoD common access card, DoD uniformed services identification and privileges cards, federal personal identification verification cards or transportation workers' identification credentials are not affected as these cards are authorized in DoD policy to facilitate physical access to installations. Please keep in mind this also affects Pennsylvania National Guard installations.

DoD policy does allow installation commanders to waive the DoD access control requirements for special situations, circumstances, or emergencies. And so, installations may authorize other

alternatives to facilitate installation access. This may be done through guest lists, temporary access cards or providing an escort, for example.

Citizens that do not have a DoD issued form of identification will be required to obtain a REAL ID Act compliant ID, prior to entering a military installation unless the installation has an aforementioned exception from the installation commander. A United States Passport allows access, fees can be found on the U.S. Department of State's website, <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports/information/fees.html>.

Thank you for allowing me to represent the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs before you today. I am available for your questions.