



## Trusted Traveler REAL ID Relief Act of 2020

**Congressional Bill Number:** H.R. 5827

### Why this matters to you:

- According to the [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#), the REAL ID Act establishes minimum security standards for license issuance and production, and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for certain purposes, including boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft, driver's licenses and ID cards from states not meeting the Act's minimum standards.
- Members, attendees and exhibitors must have REAL ID requirements in place by October 1 to travel commercially in the United States.
- This level of disruption in travel will negatively impact show attendance.
- Research by U.S. Travel and Longwoods International [previously found](#) that 57% of Americans are unaware that October 1 is the deadline for having a REAL ID-compliant driver's license — or an acceptable alternative such as a U.S. passport — to board a domestic flight.
- The research also estimated that 99 million Americans are currently without any kind of REAL ID-compliant identification.

**Praise for co-sponsors:** Check to see if your legislators are among the co-sponsors we praise for support of H.R. 5827 Better yet, [reach out to them in writing](#) (and [let us know](#) when you do)!

- Sponsor: Rep. Debbie Lesko (R-AZ)
- Rep. John Katko (R-NY)
- Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL)
- Rep. Jefferson Van Drew (R-NJ)
- Rep. Michael Guest (R-MS)
- Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ)
- Rep. Dan Bishop (R-NC)
- Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL)
- Rep. Ron Wright (R-TX)
- Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO)
- Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)

**Our Call to Action:** We urge Congress to sign on to H.R. 5827, the Trusted Traveler REAL ID Relief Act of 2020, that would allow PreCheck membership to be a temporary alternative to having a REAL ID at domestic airports. It also allows state motor vehicle agencies to establish procedures



for people to submit electronic documents and facial images when applying for REAL ID-compliant identification.

**Overview:** On October 1, 2020, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security will implement the last phase of REAL ID enforcement that will require U.S. citizens to present REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses or another acceptable form of ID to go through airport security. As of October 2019, an estimated 99 million Americans do not have a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or an acceptable alternative identification (e.g. passport), and a majority of Americans (57%) are unaware of the October 1, 2020 deadline for enforcement. This could mean tens of millions of passengers are turned away on October 1, 2020 for not having the necessary documents to fly.

**UPDATE:** The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended the deadline to October 1, 2021.

This bill would exempt certain travelers from certain requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005 for purposes of boarding a federally regulated commercial aircraft, and for other purposes.

**Our message:** With the October 1 deadline looming and research showing that most Americans are not aware of or educated about REAL-ID requirements, we must have a solution in place to deter this disruption to U.S. travel.

- Americans are simply not REAL-ID-ready.
- This barrier to travel will have a significant economic impact on exhibitions, the industry and the communities where we conduct face-to-face business.
- Turning travelers away at airport security checkpoints is not an option.
- The U.S. travel industry generates \$2.5 trillion in economic output, supports 15.7 million American jobs and generates a \$69 billion trade surplus for the United States. When travel thrives, so does America.

**Additional resources:**

- [Track the bill on Congress.gov](#)
- [Let us know your experience and contacts around this issue](#)
- Check out the [U.S. Travel Association toolkit](#) to help your members and attendees comply with REAL ID requirements