

S.38

An act relating to expanding eligibility for driving and identification privileges in Vermont

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 603 is amended to read:

§ 603. APPLICATION FOR AND ISSUANCE OF LICENSE

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(d) ~~In addition to any other requirement of law or rule, a~~ Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section:

(1) A citizen of a foreign country shall produce his or her passport and visa, alien registration receipt card (green card), or other proof of legal presence for inspection and copying as a part of the application process for an operator license, junior operator license, or learner permit. ~~Notwithstanding any other law or rule to the contrary, an~~

(2) An operator license, junior operator license, or learner permit issued to a citizen of a foreign country shall expire coincidentally with his or her authorized duration of stay.

(e)(1) A citizen of a foreign country unable to establish legal presence in the United States who furnishes reliable proof of Vermont residence and of name, date of birth, and place of birth, and who satisfies all other requirements of this chapter for obtaining a license or permit, shall be eligible to obtain an

operator's privilege card, a junior operator's privilege card, or a learner's privilege card.

(2) The Commissioner shall require applicants under this subsection to furnish a document or a combination of documents that reliably proves the applicant's name, date of birth, and place of birth. The Commissioner may prescribe the documents or combination of documents that meets these criteria. However, the Commissioner shall accept a combination of two or more of the following documents to establish the name, date of birth, and place of birth of an applicant:

(A) a valid foreign passport, with or without a U.S. Customs and Border Protection entry form or stamp;

(B) a valid consular identification document issued by the government of Mexico or of Guatemala or by any other government with comparable security standards and protocols, as determined by the Commissioner;

(C) a certified record of the applicant's birth, marriage, adoption, or divorce, including a translation if necessary.

(3) The Commissioner shall require applicants under this subsection to furnish a document or a combination of documents that reliably proves the applicant's Vermont residence. The Commissioner may prescribe the documents or combination of documents that meets these criteria. However,

the Commissioner shall accept the following combinations of documents as proof of Vermont residence:

(A)(i) two pieces of mail received by the applicant within the prior 30 days with the applicant's current name and residential Vermont address; and

(ii) at least one of the documents specified in subdivision (B) of this subdivision (3); or

(B) two of the following which show name and residential Vermont address:

(i) a vehicle title or registration;

(ii) a document issued by a financial institution, such as a bank statement;

(iii) a document issued by an insurance company or agent, such as an insurance card, binder, or bill;

(iv) a document issued by an educational institution, such as a transcript, report card, or enrollment confirmation;

(v) federal tax documents, such as W-2 or 1099 forms;

(vi) state tax documents, such as an IN-111; and

(vii) medical health records, receipts, or bills.

(f) Persons able to establish lawful presence in the United States but who otherwise fail to comply with the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-13, §§ 201–202, shall be eligible for an operator's privilege

card, a junior operator's privilege card, or a learner's privilege card, provided the applicant furnishes reliable proof of Vermont residence and of name, date of birth, and place of birth, and satisfies all other requirements of this chapter for obtaining a license or permit. The Commissioner shall require applicants under this subsection to furnish a document or a combination of documents that reliably proves the applicant's Vermont residence and his or her name, date of birth, and place of birth.

(g) The Commissioner may adopt policies or rules related to the issuance of privilege cards under this section that balance accessibility with mechanisms to prevent fraud. The Commissioner shall consider adopting the appointment system procedures used in other states to prevent and deter fraud with regard to proof of residency.

(h) A privilege card issued under this section shall:

(1) on its face bear the phrase "privilege card" and text indicating that it is not valid for federal identification or official purposes; and

(2) expire at midnight on the eve of the second birthday of the applicant following the date of issuance.

(i) Every applicant for or holder of a privilege card under this section shall be subject to all of the provisions of this title that apply to applicants and holders of operator's licenses, junior operator's licenses, and learner permits, except where the context clearly requires otherwise.

Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 115 is amended to read:

§ 115. NONDRIVER IDENTIFICATION CARDS

(a) Any Vermont resident may make application to the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner and be issued an identification card which is attested by the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner as to true name, correct age, and any other identifying data as the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner may require which shall include, in the case of minor applicants, the written consent of the applicant's parent, guardian, or other person standing in loco parentis. Every application for an identification card shall be signed by the applicant and shall contain such evidence of age and identity as the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner may require, consistent with subsection (l) of this section. The ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner shall require payment of a fee of \$20.00 at the time application for an identification card is made.

(b) ~~Every~~ Except as provided in subsection (l) of this section, every identification card shall expire, unless earlier canceled, on the fourth birthday of the applicant following the date of original issue, and may be renewed every four years upon payment of a \$20.00 fee. At least 30 days before an identification card will expire, the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner shall mail first class to the cardholder an application to renew the identification card.

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(1)(1) The Commissioner shall issue identification cards to Vermont residents who are not U.S. citizens but are able to establish lawful presence in the United States if an applicant follows the procedures and furnishes documents as required under subsection 603(d) of this title and any policies or rules adopted thereunder, and otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section. The identification cards shall expire consistent with subsection 603(d) of this title.

(2) The Commissioner shall issue non-REAL ID compliant identification cards to Vermont residents unable to establish lawful presence in the United States if an applicant follows the procedures and furnishes documents as required under subsection 603(e) of this title and any policies or rules adopted thereunder, and otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section.

(3) The Commissioner shall issue non-REAL ID compliant identification cards to Vermont residents able to establish lawful presence in the United States but who otherwise fail to comply with the requirements of the REAL ID Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-13, §§ 201–202, if the applicant follows the procedures and furnishes documents as required under subsection 603(f) of this title and any policies or rules adopted thereunder, and otherwise satisfies the requirements of this section.

(4) A non-REAL ID compliant identification card issued under subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection shall:

(A) bear on its face text indicating that it is not valid for federal identification or official purposes; and

(B) expire at midnight on the eve of the second birthday of the applicant following the date of issuance.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on January 1, 2014.