



Alaska House Bush Caucus

Representative Bryce Edgmon, Chair, District 37
Alaska State Legislature
120 4th St. State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Representative Tiffany Zulkosky, District 38
Representative Neal Foster, District 39
Representative John Lincoln, District 40

March 23, 2020

Dear Senators Murkowski and Sullivan and Representative Young:

We write today to request an extension of the Real ID Act implementation in our state. The Alaska Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has been unable to establish a process to issue Real ID-compliant identification cards to Alaskans living in communities without a DMV office. These difficulties have been greatly exacerbated by the current COVID-19 situation in our state and nationwide.

On March 20, 2020 Governor Dunleavy issued [Health Alert 9.2 – In-State Alaska Travel](#), which includes the following “strong advisory”:

That all Alaskans cease any non-essential in-state long distance personal, business, or medical travel, with specific heightened concern for travel to remote areas with limited medical resources.

Many if not all our districts’ communities that have been awaiting mobile DMV services are the communities referenced in Health Alert 9.2. Although the Real ID deadline is still seven months away, it is unclear if the DMV will be operating in a manner that will allow for identification card provision in remote areas before the federal deadline.

The federal government has made modifications to other deadlines and policies as the country grapples with the COVID-19 response, including a delayed personal income tax filing deadline, suspension of student loan interest, and the cancellation of this year’s standardized testing for public schools. We urge you to advocate for a similar extension for Alaska’s rural residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Bryce Edgmon in blue ink.

Representative Bryce Edgmon,
Speaker of the House of Representative

Handwritten signature of Tiffany Zulkosky in blue ink.

Representative Tiffany Zulkosky

Handwritten signature of Neal Foster in blue ink.

Representative Neal Foster

Handwritten signature of John Lincoln in blue ink.

Representative John Lincoln