

115TH CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 16, 2025

Mr. [Sponsor Name] (for himself, [Co-Sponsor Names]) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on [Appropriate Committee, e.g., Homeland Security]

A BILL

To establish a universal identification card system for United States citizens, consolidate existing federal identification methods, enhance national security, reduce identity fraud, streamline government services, and for other purposes.

PREAMBLE. Whereas the United States faces persistent threats from identity fraud and inefficiencies in federal identification systems that undermine national security and public trust;

Whereas a unified, secure identification framework is essential to protect citizens' personal information, ensure equitable access to government services, and strengthen the integrity of immigration and travel systems;

Whereas the proliferation of disparate federal and state identification methods creates confusion, duplication, and vulnerabilities that demand a modern, consolidated approach;

Whereas the GAO estimates that the federal government loses between \$233 and \$521 billion annually to fraud;

Whereas the right to privacy and the needs of all citizens, including the underserved and non-citizens, must be safeguarded in any national identification system;

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Universal Identification Card Act of 2025".

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a universal identification card system for all U.S. citizens, consolidating and eliminating existing sporadic forms of federal identification into a secure system. This Act aims to enhance national security, reduce identity fraud, streamline access to government services, and protect citizens' personal information, while ensuring compatibility with non-citizen identification systems such as Green Cards and Travel Visas, clarifying the role of state-issued IDs, and preserving passports and passport cards for international travel and consular purposes.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act:

- (a) Universal ID Card (UID Card).-The term "Universal ID Card" or "UID Card" means a secure, government-issued identification card that serves as the sole federal identification for U.S. citizens.
- (b) Citizen.-The term "citizen" means an individual recognized as a U.S. citizen under the Fourteenth Amendment and federal law.
- (c) Non-Citizen.-The term "non-citizen" means a lawful permanent resident (e.g., Green Card holder) or temporary resident (e.g., Travel Visa holder) admitted under federal immigration law.
- (d) Personal Information.-The term "personal information" means data identifying an individual, including name, date of birth, citizenship or residency status, and biometric data.
- (e) Biometric Data.-The term "biometric data" means unique physical identifiers, such as fingerprints or facial scans, used for identity verification.
- (f) NIA.-The term "NIA" means the National Identification Authority, the federal entity responsible for issuing and managing the UID Card and Green Card systems.
- (g) Green Card.-The term "Green Card" means a lawful permanent resident card issued under the Immigration and Nationality Act.
- (h) Travel Visa.-The term "Travel Visa" means a temporary authorization for entry or residency issued by the Department of State or other authorized agencies.
- (i) State ID.-The term "State ID" means any identification card issued by a state government, including driver's licenses and state-issued non-driver IDs, used for state-specific purposes.
- (j) Passport.-The term "passport" means a document issued by the Department of State for international travel, proof of citizenship abroad, and consular services, including both passport books and passport cards.
- (k) Passport Card.-The term "passport card" means a limited-use document issued by the Department of State for land and sea travel between the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda, under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI).

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNIVERSAL ID CARD SYSTEM.

- (a) Creation of the National Identification Authority.-

(1) The National Identification Authority (NIA) is established as an independent federal agency, reporting to the House Committee on Homeland Security, effective January 1, 2026, to oversee the design, issuance, and management of UID Cards for U.S. citizens and Green Cards for lawful permanent residents.

(2) The NIA shall coordinate with the Department of State for Travel Visa and passport standardization, and with state Departments of Motor Vehicles (DMVs) for state ID alignment, integrating existing federal ID systems into the UID framework while preserving DoS authority over international travel documents. The NIA shall also coordinate with agencies like the Social Security Administration (SSA) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to retire sporadic federal IDs.

(3) The NIA shall establish a standardized biometric data-sharing framework with the Department of State by December 31, 2026, defining legal and technical protocols for aligning Travel Visa biometric data with UID standards, the DoS shall submit quarterly compliance updates to NIA starting 2026, reported annually (Section 11)..

(4) The NIA shall have authority to promulgate regulations necessary to implement UID Card and Green Card issuance, subject to a 60-day congressional review period, ensuring compliance with this Act by January 1, 2026.

(b) UID Card Specifications.-

(1) The UID Card shall be a tamper-proof, durable card with an embedded chip containing encrypted personal information (name, date of birth, citizenship status, biometric data).

(2) It shall feature a photograph, a unique identification number, the motto "E Pluribus Unum," and anti-counterfeiting measures like holograms, with a validity period of 10 years (5 years for minors).

(3) The UID Card shall replace all federal identification functions for citizens, serving as the sole ID for government services, voting, employment verification, and domestic travel.

(c) Standardization with Non-Citizen IDs, State IDs, Passports, and Passport Cards.-

(1) Green Cards shall be issued by the NIA with UID-standard biometric data (e.g., fingerprints, facial scans) for lawful permanent residency purposes. Travel Visas shall remain valid for temporary residency purposes under Department of State authority, with biometric data standardized to align with UID Card security features. All new Green Cards issued after December 31, 2026, shall incorporate UID-standard biometric data at issuance by the NIA. All new Travel Visas issued after December 31, 2026, shall incorporate UID-standard biometric data at issuance, coordinated by the NIA and the Department of State, ensuring immediate compliance for new entrants.

(2) State IDs, including driver's licenses and non-driver IDs, shall remain valid for state-specific purposes (e.g., driving, state benefits) but shall not be accepted for federal identification purposes after the transition period.

(3) Passports and passport cards shall remain valid for international travel and consular purposes, with biometric data standardized to align with UID Card security features by 2030, as detailed in section 7(e).

(4) The NIA's coordination with the Department of State shall not impose new legal obligations beyond biometric standardization for Travel Visas, leveraging existing DoS renewal processes as outlined in Section 7(c)(2)(F), with compliance authority resting within DoS mandates.

SEC. 5. APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE PROCESS.

(a) Eligibility.-

(1) All U.S. citizens are eligible to receive a UID Card from the NIA, regardless of age.

(2) Lawful permanent residents are eligible for Green Cards issued by the NIA with UID-standard biometric data. Temporary residents with Travel Visas shall retain DoS-issued identification, updated per Section 4(c).

(b) Application Process.-

(1) Citizens and lawful permanent residents may apply via:

(A) A secure online portal managed by the NIA.

(B) In-person at designated locations (e.g., post offices, SSA offices, or DMVs).

(2) Required documentation includes:

(A) Proof of citizenship (for UID Cards) or lawful permanent residency (for Green Cards) (e.g., birth certificate, passport, prior Green Card).

(B) Proof of identity (e.g., existing state ID).

(C) Biometric data (e.g., fingerprints, facial scan), unless the citizen or resident opts out due to religious, privacy, or other objections, in which case an alternative NIA-approved verification method (e.g., secure PIN, multi-factor authentication) shall be provided. Alternative verification methods shall include, but not be limited to, a secure Personal Identification Number (PIN) of at least 8 characters, multi-factor authentication (e.g., a combination of a PIN and a one-time code sent to a registered device), or a NIA-issued cryptographic token (e.g., a smart card or mobile app-based credential). Citizens and residents shall be informed of biometric and alternative method security features and risks at application, with consent documented via portal or in-person acknowledgment. The NIA shall publish a list of approved methods within 6 months of the Act's effective date, with updates as technology evolves. All alternative methods shall meet or exceed the security standards of biometric data, including resistance to counterfeiting, unauthorized access, and identity theft, as verified by annual independent cybersecurity assessments conducted by the NIA. The NIA shall ensure that alternative methods are accessible to all citizens and residents, including those without personal devices or advanced technical skills, by offering options such as mailed one-time codes, in-person verification at designated locations, or voice-activated authentication for individuals with disabilities. Accessibility guidelines shall be published alongside the list of approved methods. Citizens and residents may opt out of biometric data collection at the time of application or request a change to an alternative method post-issuance via the secure online portal or in-person at designated locations, with the NIA processing such requests within 15 days at no additional fee and providing confirmation of the change. Citizens and residents opting for alternative verification methods shall not face delays in card issuance, reduced functionality of the UID Card or Green Card, or

additional requirements for federal services beyond those applied to biometric users, ensuring equal treatment under this Act.

(3) Citizens and residents may request customization of the card's non-secure elements (e.g., name in a preferred language, cultural motifs, or state seal), subject to NIA guidelines. The NIA shall ensure customization:

(A) Preserves a uniform layout for federal acceptance (e.g., consistent placement of photo, ID number, and secure features);

(B) Uses high-quality, tamper-resistant printing to maintain anti-counterfeiting integrity; and

(C) Is limited to elements that enhance personal or cultural identity without compromising readability or functionality. Examples may include a secondary language name or a subtle background design, with the NIA retaining discretion to approve or deny based on these criteria.

The NIA shall publish initial customization guidelines within 6 months of the Act's effective date, with a 60-day public comment period, and may update them as needed with public notice.

Customization requests must be submitted during the application process and may incur an additional fee of \$10, waivable for low-income individuals. The NIA shall integrate customization into standard production workflows, ensuring no delays beyond the 30-day issuance timeline (Section 5(c)(1)), and may adjust processing capacity as needed to meet demand.

(4) A background check shall verify citizenship or residency and screen for fraud.

(c) Issuance.-

(1) Approved UID Cards and Green Cards shall be issued by the NIA within 30 days and delivered via secure mail.

(2) Cards for minors shall be issued to a parent or guardian.

(3) Travel Visa holders shall receive DoS-issued versions with standardized biometric data by December 31, 2028, coordinated by the NIA and DoS, with priority given to existing holders and new issuances aligned with UID standards starting in Year 2 (2026).

(4) The NIA, in collaboration with DoS, shall achieve: (A) Update biometric data for 50% of new Travel Visa issuances by December 31, 2026; (B) Update 75% of new Travel Visa issuances by December 31, 2027; (C) Complete updates for all new Travel Visa issuances by December 31, 2028. Progress shall be reported annually (Section 11).

(5) UID Card or Green Card holders disputing biometric data accuracy may file a claim via the NIA's secure portal or toll-free hotline, resolved by the NIA within 30 days. Travel Visa holders disputing denials due to UID-standard mismatches shall file with DoS, with NIA providing technical verification within 15 days; DoS shall resolve within 30 days total, with joint NIA-DoS reporting annually (Section 11).

(d) Special Cards.-

(1) The NIA may issue special UID Cards for specific groups where functionality or accessibility requires distinct features, such as:

(A) Minors, with a 5-year validity period;

(B) Individuals with disabilities, with accessibility enhancements (e.g., Braille, tactile markers);
or

(C) Other groups as determined by the NIA based on demonstrated need (e.g., veterans),
provided the following conditions are met:

(i) Special cards shall incorporate all security features of the standard UID Card, including the encrypted chip, biometric data (where applicable), photograph, unique ID number, and 'E Pluribus Unum' motto.

(ii) Special cards may include tailored features, designed to enhance usability while maintaining compatibility with standard verification systems (e.g., shorter validity, accessibility markers, or a distinguishing visual cue like a border or symbol). The NIA shall standardize these features to ensure immediate recognition by federal and state entities.

(iii) The NIA shall ensure that special cards are clearly distinguishable from standard cards and shall provide guidance to federal and state agencies on their acceptance, including a concise public explanation of special card purposes and features, distributed via the national outreach campaign (Section 7(c)(2)(D))."

(C) Eligibility for special cards shall be determined by the NIA, with applications requiring additional documentation (e.g., proof of disability, military service).

(D) Special cards shall not be subject to customization beyond the tailored features specified by the NIA, to prevent confusion or security risks.

(E) The NIA shall ensure that special cards are clearly distinguishable from standard cards and shall provide guidance to federal and state agencies on their acceptance.

(F) The NIA shall publish guidelines for special card eligibility and features within 6 months of the Act's effective date.

SEC. 6. PRIVACY AND DATA SECURITY.

(a) Data Protection.-

(1) Personal information shall be encrypted and stored in a secure federal database, accessible only to authorized personnel. The NIA shall conduct annual cybersecurity audits and penetration tests of the federal database and all linked systems (e.g., biometric storage, Green Card/Visa interfaces) by independent third-party experts, with results reported to Congress in the annual update (Section 11) and a public summary of audit findings, excluding sensitive security details, shall detail vulnerabilities found, remediation steps taken, and compliance status, shall include opt-out method breach rates, ensuring equal security, released within 90 days. Identified vulnerabilities shall be addressed within 60 days, with progress tracked quarterly.

(2) Biometric data for UID Cards, Green Cards, Travel Visas, state ID verification (where applicable), passports, and passport cards shall be stored separately, linked only to unique ID numbers, not personal details. Citizens and non-citizens may opt out of biometric data collection, with alternative verification methods provided. Encryption shall adhere to the latest National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) guidelines, updated at least biennially to counter emerging threats (e.g., quantum computing decryption). The NIA shall assess and implement

post-quantum cryptographic standards by December 31, 2028, with a feasibility report submitted to Congress by December 31, 2027. By the end of Year 2 (2026), the NIA shall evaluate decentralized storage solutions (e.g., blockchain or distributed ledger technology) to complement or replace the centralized database, reducing single-point vulnerabilities. A pilot program testing decentralization for 1% of records (~3.4 million) shall be conducted in Year 3 (2027), with findings reported to Congress by December 31, 2027, and a decision on broader adoption made by December 31, 2028. The pilot shall assess security (e.g., breach resistance), scalability, and cost, with metrics published in the report. The NIA shall establish data retention policies, limiting storage of biometric and personal data to the card's validity period (10 years for adults, 5 for minors) or until a citizen's or resident's death, whichever comes first. Data shall be securely deleted within 90 days of expiration or notification, with procedures audited annually (Section 11).

(3) Multi-factor authentication and end-to-end encryption shall safeguard data.

(4) The NIA shall establish a real-time cybersecurity incident response team, operational by December 31, 2026, to mitigate immediate threats, with emergency plans reviewed quarterly and reported to Congress annually (Section 11).

(b) Access Control.-

(1) Only authorized NIA staff, law enforcement (with a warrant), immigration officials (for Green Card/Visa data), state agencies (for state ID data with consent), and Department of State officials (for passport and passport card data) may access the database. The NIA shall implement real-time access monitoring, requiring two-factor authentication for all personnel and logging every database query. An automated anomaly detection system shall flag unusual activity (e.g., bulk data access outside normal duties), triggering immediate review by a designated security officer. Annual training on data ethics and security shall be mandatory for all authorized personnel, with compliance audited by the Privacy and Civil Liberties Board (Section 11(d)).

(2) Unauthorized access or misuse shall incur fines up to \$100,000 and imprisonment for up to 10 years. Individuals accused of data misuse shall have access to an independent judicial review process, with appeals handled by a designated federal court, ensuring due process within 60 days of accusation.

(c) Citizen and Non-Citizen Protections.-

(1) Citizens, Green Card/Visa holders, state ID holders, passport holders, and passport card holders may review their data, correct errors, and be notified of breaches via a secure portal. In the event of a data breach, the NIA shall notify affected citizens, Green Card/Visa holders, state ID holders (where applicable), passport holders, and passport card holders within 72 hours of detection via the secure portal, email, or mail, detailing the breach scope, compromised data, and protective steps (e.g., free credit monitoring for 1 year). A public announcement shall follow within 7 days, and a mitigation plan shall be enacted within 14 days, outlining containment, recovery, and communication steps, tested annually, with updates reported to Congress quarterly until resolved. Citizens and non-citizens may request an annual data access log via the secure portal, detailing who accessed their records and why, with responses provided within 15 days.

The NIA shall establish a toll-free hotline and online form for reporting suspected data misuse, with investigations completed within 30 days and findings shared with the complainant and the Privacy and Civil Liberties Board. The NIA shall verify full Green Card data integration by March 31, 2026, with interim USCIS notifications if delayed.

SEC. 7. ELIMINATION OF EXISTING IDS AND TRANSITION.

(a) Phase-Out Timeline.-

(1) Year 1 (2025).- Establish the NIA and infrastructure, with a goal of completing all setup (e.g., hiring staff, establishing application centers) by December 31, 2025.

(2) Year 2 (2026).-Launch a pilot program in five states. The NIA shall select pilot states to represent diverse demographics (e.g., urban, rural, high/low-income) and aim to issue cards to up to 7% (~23.8 million citizens and residents) if capacity allows, with a report on pilot outcomes submitted to Congress by March 31, 2027, detailing issuance rates, technical challenges, and rural access metrics.

(3) Years 3-5 (2027-2029).-Nationwide rollout, prioritizing those without federal IDs, then replacing existing federal IDs, with milestones of issuing UID Cards and Green Cards to 25% (~85 million citizens and residents) by December 31, 2027, 50% (~170 million citizens and residents) by December 31, 2028, and 90% (~306 million citizens and residents) by December 31, 2029. The NIA shall prioritize rural and underserved regions in Year 3 (2027), targeting at least 30% of issuances (~25.5 million) to citizens and residents in counties with populations under 50,000, adjusting subsequent years based on regional uptake data. The NIA may adjust milestones regionally if rural issuance lags 20% below urban rates, with adjustments reported (Section 11).

(4) Year 6 (2030).-Full transition, with a goal of issuing UID Cards to 100% of eligible citizens and Green Cards to 100% of eligible residents by December 31, 2030; all prior federal IDs (e.g., Social Security cards, Veteran Health IDs) are obsolete for federal purposes, except Green Cards, Travel Visas, state IDs for state-specific purposes, and passports and passport cards for international purposes, unless extended per subsection (f).

(5) Production and Distribution Capacity.-The NIA shall establish a minimum annual issuance capacity of 75 million cards (UID and Green Cards) by the end of Year 2 (2026), increasing to 150 million annually by the end of Year 3 (2027), based on pilot results and infrastructure assessments, with excess capacity reserved for demand surges or backlog clearance.

(b) Retirement of Sporadic IDs.-

(1) Definition of Sporadic IDs.-For the purposes of this Act, "Sporadic IDs" shall refer to any federal or quasi-federal identification document issued by a U.S. government agency, other than the UID Card, Green Cards, Travel Visas, state IDs (for state-specific purposes), passport books, and passport cards (for international purposes), that is used for federal identification or verification purposes. Examples include, but are not limited to, Social Security cards, Veteran Health Identification Cards, military IDs (e.g., Common Access Card), Trusted Traveler Program IDs (e.g., Global Entry, NEXUS), Transportation Worker Identification Credentials (TWIC),

federal employee PIV cards, tribal enrollment cards, Medicare cards, and other veteran IDs (e.g., VA Veteran ID Card).

(2) Comprehensive List by NIA.-

(A) The NIA shall, by the end of Year 1 (December 31, 2025), conduct an inventory of all federal and quasi-federal IDs in consultation with relevant agencies (e.g., Department of Defense, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Transportation Security Administration, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Department of Veterans Affairs) and publish a comprehensive list of Sporadic IDs to be retired for federal purposes by 2030.

(B) The NIA shall provide a 60-day public comment period on the proposed list and submit the final list to Congress for review, as part of its annual reporting obligations under section 11.

(C) The NIA may update the list as needed, subject to the same public comment and congressional review process, to account for new IDs or policy changes.

(3) Retirement Timeline.-

(A) All Sporadic IDs, as identified by the NIA, shall cease to be valid for federal purposes by 2030.

(B) Temporary Exemptions.-

(i) The NIA may grant temporary exemptions for specific Sporadic IDs (e.g., military IDs for active-duty personnel) if justified by operational needs.

(ii) Such exemptions may be issued for an initial period of up to 1 year without immediate congressional approval, provided the NIA notifies Congress within 14 days of issuance, detailing the justification, scope, and duration of the exemption.

(iii) Exemptions lasting beyond 1 year, or requiring renewal, shall require congressional approval. No single exemption may exceed 2 years without renewal.

(iv) The NIA shall include a summary of all exemptions, including their status and impact, in its annual report to Congress (section 11).

(C) The REAL ID Act of 2005 shall be repealed effective January 1, 2030, as the UID Card will serve as the sole federal identification for all purposes previously covered by REAL ID-compliant state IDs.

(D) State IDs, including driver's licenses and non-driver IDs, shall remain valid for state specific purposes (e.g., driving, state benefits, age verification for alcohol purchases) but shall not be accepted for federal identification or verification after 2030. States may continue issuing licenses with updated designs per subsection (g).

(E) Passport books and passport cards shall cease to be valid for domestic federal identification purposes by 2030 but shall remain valid for international travel and consular purposes as provided in subsection (e).

(F) Green Cards and Travel Visas shall remain valid for immigration and residency purposes, with updated security features by 2030.

(c) Support.-

(1) Mobile units, multilingual assistance (in at least the top 10 languages spoken in the U.S.), and fee waivers shall aid rural, non-English-speaking, and low-income citizens and non-citizens

during the transition. The NIA shall deploy at least 500 mobile units nationwide by the end of Year 2 (2026), with a minimum of 50% assigned to rural counties (population under 50,000), capable of processing 200 applications daily per unit, and report deployment effectiveness in annual updates (Section 11). The NIA shall dedicate at least 20% of mobile units (e.g., 100 of 500 proposed units) and multilingual resources to non-citizen communities, targeting areas with high immigrant populations (e.g., top 25 metropolitan areas by foreign-born residents per Census data), with outreach campaigns in at least 15 languages starting in Year 2 (2026).

(2) The NIA shall:

(A) Partner with local nonprofits and community organizations to reach underserved populations, including the homeless, elderly, and disabled.

(B) Provide accommodations such as braille applications, sign language interpreters, and home visits for citizens and residents with mobility issues.

(C) Extend application deadlines for vulnerable populations as needed, with a maximum extension of 2 years, to ensure access.

(D) Launch a national outreach campaign (Years 2-5) to educate citizens and residents on the transition, including information on customization options, special cards, the phase-out of REAL ID branding, the distinction between UID Cards (for federal purposes) and state IDs (for state purposes only post-2030), and their proper use, with targeted efforts in rural and urban underserved communities.

(E) Provide technical assistance and funding (e.g., grants) to states to support the phase out of REAL ID branding and alignment of state ID designs with UID Card standards, as outlined in subsection (g).

(F) Partner with the Department of State to integrate Travel Visa biometric updates into existing renewal processes starting in Year 2 (2026), offering simultaneous UID-standard biometric collection at consular posts, with no additional fee for non-citizens renewing within their standard cycle.

(G) Extend application deadlines and provide priority processing (within 15 days) for vulnerable populations-defined as citizens and residents over 65, with disabilities, below 100% of the poverty level, or in rural counties (population under 50,000)-ensuring access by 2030, with extensions up to December 31, 2032, if issuance lags below 95% for these groups, reported annually (Section 11).

(d) Emergency Provisions.-

(1) Presidential Authority.-

(A) In the event of a national emergency declared by the President, the President may authorize the NIA to implement the following temporary measures if the emergency significantly disrupts the issuance or use of UID Cards or Green Cards on a national or regional scale:

(i) Remote Application Options.-Offer remote application methods (e.g., mail-in forms, virtual biometric verification) for citizens and residents unable to access in-person locations due to the emergency.

- (ii) Extended Deadlines.-Extend deadlines for UID Card and Green Card issuance by up to 6 months for citizens and residents in affected regions.
- (iii) Temporary Use of Existing IDs.-Permit the temporary use of existing federal or state IDs for federal purposes in emergency-declared areas, with a grace period of up to 1 year following the termination of the emergency declaration.
- (B) Criteria for Implementation.-
 - (i) The NIA shall assess the emergency's impact on UID Card and Green Card issuance and use, considering factors such as:
 - (I) The number of citizens and residents affected (e.g., more than 1% of the national population or 10% of a state's population).
 - (II) The duration and severity of disruptions to application centers (e.g., closures lasting more than 30 days).
 - (III) The availability of alternative access methods (e.g., online portals, mobile units).
 - (ii) Measures shall only be enacted if the assessment confirms significant disruption, ensuring proportionality.
 - (iii) The NIA shall consult state governments in affected regions during the assessment process.
- (C) Congressional Oversight.-
 - (i) The NIA shall notify Congress within 14 days of implementing emergency measures, providing a detailed justification and estimated duration.
 - (ii) Emergency measures shall automatically expire 1 year after the Presidential declaration ends, unless extended by Congress.
- (D) Citizen and Resident Protections.-Citizens and residents in affected areas shall be notified of temporary measures through public announcements, online portals, and local outreach, ensuring accessibility for non-English speakers and rural communities.
- (e) Continued Role of Passports and Passport Cards.-
 - (1) International Travel and Consular Purposes.-
 - (A) Passport books issued by the Department of State shall remain valid for all international travel (including air travel), proof of citizenship abroad, and consular services (e.g., assisting citizens overseas), in accordance with international agreements and existing federal law (e.g., 22 U.S.C. § 211a).
 - (B) Passport cards issued by the Department of State shall remain valid for land and sea travel between the U.S., Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda, as specified under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI), and for proof of citizenship in these contexts.
 - (C) The UID Card shall not replace passport books or passport cards for these purposes, ensuring compliance with international travel standards and obligations.
 - (2) Standardization with UID System.-
 - (A) By 2030, passport books and passport cards shall incorporate biometric data (e.g., fingerprints, facial scans) standardized with UID Card security features, as coordinated by the NIA and the Department of State.

(B) Citizens may continue to use passport books or passport cards for their respective international purposes without obtaining a UID Card, though a UID Card shall be required for domestic federal identification purposes per section 9.

(C) The Department of State, in consultation with the NIA and international partners, shall submit a feasibility report by December 31, 2027, on UID Card acceptance for land/sea entry (e.g., Canada, Mexico), with pilot proposals if viable, reported annually (Section 11). The NIA database shall interface with existing domestic travel security systems (e.g., TSA screening) as determined by the NIA, with integration plans reported annually (Section 11).

(3) Proof of Citizenship.-Passport books and passport cards shall remain valid documents for proving U.S. citizenship in international contexts, complementing the UID Card's role as proof of citizenship for domestic federal purposes.

(f) Contingency Measures for Rollout.-

(1) Missed Milestones.-If the NIA fails to meet the milestones in subsection (a) (e.g., 5% issuance by 2026, 90% by 2029), it shall:

(A) Submit a report to Congress within 60 days, detailing the reasons for the delay (e.g., technical issues, low application rates) and proposing a detailed corrective plan (e.g., resource shifts, outreach expansion), reviewed by GAO alongside biennial audits, with corrective actions implemented within 6 months, with progress updates in annual reports (Section 11).

(B) Implement corrective actions within 6 months, with progress updates in annual reports (section 11).

(2) Grace Period Extensions.-If the NIA determines that less than 90% of eligible citizens and residents have received UID Cards or Green Cards by June 30, 2030, it may extend the full transition deadline (December 31, 2030) by up to 2 years (to December 31, 2032), with congressional approval. The NIA shall submit a justification report to Congress, including issuance data, challenges faced, and a revised plan to achieve 100% issuance.

(3) NIA Flexibility.-The NIA shall have the authority to adjust timelines, grace periods, and resource allocation (e.g., redirecting funds to underserved areas, extending pilot phases) to meet the Act's goals, subject to annual reporting and congressional review (Section 11). The NIA may extend any milestone deadline in subsection (a) by up to 6 months without congressional approval, provided it notifies Congress within 30 days with data-driven justification (e.g., application backlog exceeding 10% of target, rural issuance below 20% of goal), and implements corrective actions within 90 days.

(4) Early Warning System.-By the end of Year 1 (2025), the NIA shall establish a monitoring system to track issuance rates, technical issues, and regional disparities monthly, with quarterly risk assessments submitted to Congress starting in Year 2 (2026). If data indicates a potential milestone shortfall (e.g., issuance trailing 15% below target), the NIA shall deploy preemptive measures (e.g., additional mobile units, extended hours) within 60 days.

(g) Coordination with States on REAL ID Phase-Out and Design Alignment.-

(1) REAL ID Branding Phase-Out.-

(A) The NIA shall collaborate with state Departments of Motor Vehicles (DMVs) to phase out REAL ID branding on state-issued IDs (e.g., driver's licenses, non-driver IDs) by December 31, 2029.

(B) Starting in Year 2 (2026), the NIA shall develop guidelines for states to remove REAL ID branding (e.g., star symbol) from newly issued IDs, replacing it with a clear indicator (e.g., 'State Use Only' label) to signify that the ID is not valid for federal purposes post-2030. The NIA's guidelines shall mandate that state IDs include a prominent 'State Use Only' label in a standardized font and color (e.g., red text on a white background) on the front of the card, alongside a disclaimer stating, 'Not Valid for Federal Identification After 2030,' to ensure immediate visual distinction from the UID Card.

(C) States shall ensure that all newly issued IDs after December 31, 2029, do not bear REAL ID branding, and the NIA shall provide technical assistance and funding (e.g., grants) to support this transition, as outlined in subsection (c). The NIA shall allocate at least \$500 million annually from the \$3 billion rollout budget (Years 3-5) as grants to states for REAL ID phase-out and design updates, with priority given to states with demonstrated financial need (e.g., per capita income below the national average) or high rural populations (e.g., over 30% rural residents per Census data). Grant applications shall be processed within 60 days, with funds disbursable for equipment, staff training, and public education. States completing the REAL ID branding phase-out and issuing all new IDs without REAL ID branding by December 31, 2027, shall receive a bonus grant equal to 25% of their allocated transition funding, to be used for state ID infrastructure upgrades or citizen outreach programs. The NIA shall establish an application process for this bonus by the end of Year 1 (December 31, 2025).

(2) State ID Design Alignment.-

(A) The NIA shall provide voluntary design guidelines to states by the end of Year 2 (December 31, 2026), encouraging alignment of state ID designs with UID Card standards (e.g., similar anti-counterfeiting measures like holograms, layout cues such as photograph placement) to reduce public confusion during the transition.

(B) States may retain autonomy over non-federal design elements (e.g., state-specific colors, symbols), but alignment with UID Card standards is encouraged to ensure consistency and clarity for citizens and federal agencies.

(C) The NIA shall offer technical assistance and funding (e.g., grants) to states for updating their ID designs, as outlined in subsection (c). States adopting the NIA's voluntary design guidelines (e.g., holograms, layout cues) for at least 50% of newly issued IDs by December 31, 2028, shall receive priority technical assistance (e.g., on-site experts, expedited support) and an additional grant of up to \$5 million, proportional to population, for state-specific enhancements (e.g., cultural motifs, advanced security features). The NIA shall track adoption rates in its annual report (Section 11).

(3) State Consultation Process.-The NIA shall establish a State Advisory Committee, comprising representatives from at least 10 state DMVs (reflecting geographic and population diversity), and local officials (e.g., county clerks), to provide input on REAL ID phase-out guidelines, design

alignment options, and transition challenges. The Committee shall meet biannually starting in Year 1 (2025), quarterly in Years 1-2, with recommendations included in the NIA's annual report to Congress (Section 11).

SEC. 8. REPLACEMENT, LOSS, AND FRAUD PREVENTION.

(a) Lost or Stolen Cards.-

(1) Report via portal or hotline; replacements issued within 15 days for \$25 (waived for low income citizens, non-citizens, or state ID holders).

(2) Temporary digital IDs provided via a secure app for citizens and Green Card holders; Travel Visa holders receive temporary paper authorization; state ID holders rely on state-issued replacements; passport and passport card holders follow Department of State replacement procedures for international travel.

(b) Fraud Measures.-

(1) Biometric verification and real-time authentication shall prevent misuse across UID Cards, Green Cards, Travel Visas, state IDs, passports, and passport cards.

Penalties include:

(A) Fines of \$10,000 to \$50,000 and imprisonment of 1 to 5 years for counterfeiting, scaling with offense severity;

(B) Fines of \$50,000 to \$100,000 and imprisonment of 5 to 10 years for identity theft, scaling with offense severity; adjudicated with due process rights preserved. Victims shall receive NIA-funded remediation (e.g., legal aid, credit restoration) for 1 year post-theft.

SEC. 9. MANDATORY USE.

(a) The UID Card shall be required for the following purposes, with exemptions available via a NIA process for citizens facing systemic barriers (e.g., homelessness, disability), adjudicated within 30 days with appeal rights, including the right to appeal denials to a federal administrative review board within 60 days, reported annually (Section 11):

(1) Voting in elections, provided that citizens unable to obtain a UID Card by election day may use a provisional ballot or existing state ID, as permitted by state law, until 2030. After 2030, provisional voting shall be available for those awaiting UID Card issuance. Provisional ballots shall be offered at all polling sites, with eligibility verified via a toll-free NIA hotline or paper affidavit, ensuring no citizen is denied voting rights due to issuance delays.

(2) Accessing federal benefits (e.g., Social Security, Medicare), with a grace period until 2030 for current beneficiaries to transition. Temporary digital IDs or existing federal IDs shall be accepted during this period to prevent denial of benefits. Post-2030, beneficiaries without UID Cards due to documented barriers (e.g., disability, rural residency, poverty) may continue using temporary digital IDs or existing IDs until issuance is complete, with the NIA ensuring delivery within 60 days of application for such groups, tracked annually (Section 11).

(3) Employment verification. New hires awaiting UID Cards may use a temporary digital ID or existing federal/state ID for up to 90 days from hire date, with employers required to accept such proof during this period, as verified by the NIA's secure portal.

(4) Domestic travel and federal building access.

(5) Temporary Digital ID Access.-Temporary digital IDs shall be available via a secure app, online portal, or paper format (mailed within 7 days of request) for citizens and Green Card holders awaiting UID Cards or Green Cards, with no internet access required for paper options. The NIA shall ensure rural and elderly citizens and residents can obtain digital IDs through mobile units or local partners (e.g., libraries, post offices), with distribution tracked annually (Section 11).

(6) No federal agency, state government, or private entity receiving federal funds shall deny services based solely on UID Card status if the applicant can provide alternative legally recognized identification (e.g., state ID, passport) during grace periods or pending issuance, as verified by the NIA.

(b) Green Cards shall be required for immigration-related purposes under NIA authority and may be used for federal services where citizenship is not required. Travel Visas shall remain under DoS authority for immigration purposes, with equal privacy protections as UID Cards and Green Cards under Section 6. Non-citizens shall not face discrimination in federal service access due to updated standards. DoS shall match NIA's NIST-compliant encryption for Travel Visas by 2028, audited by GAO annually.

(c) State IDs shall be required for state-specific purposes (e.g., driving, state programs) but shall not be accepted for federal identification or verification after 2030.

(d) Passports and passport cards shall be required for international travel and consular purposes, as specified in section 7(e), and may be used for proving citizenship in international contexts but not for domestic federal identification after 2030.

(e) States and private entities may optionally adopt the UID Card or standardized non-citizen IDs for other purposes.

SEC. 10. FUNDING.

(a) Initial.-\$13 billion for setup (Years 1-2), including \$5 billion for infrastructure (e.g., application centers, biometric equipment), \$3 billion for staff, \$3 billion for production, and \$1 billion for Green Card transition from USCIS and Travel VISA/Passport coordination, with at least \$1 billion reserved as a contingency for unexpected costs (e.g., supply chain delays, rural outreach). \$3.8 billion annually for rollout (Years 3-5), including \$1 billion for Travel Visa/passport coordination and special cards, with the NIA authorized to reallocate funds across categories based on demand and reported annually (Section 11). Funding releases shall align with issuance milestones (e.g., 25% by 2027), verified by GAO. The NIA shall minimize setup costs by utilizing existing federal and state facilities (e.g., post offices, DMVs, former USCIS offices) for application processing and biometric collection, targeting at least 50% of initial

infrastructure needs through partnerships, with savings reported in the Year 2 cost-benefit analysis (Section 10(d)).

(b) Ongoing.-Application fees shall be tiered based on income:

(1) \$50 for individuals earning above 200% of the federal poverty level.

(2) \$25 for individuals earning between 100-200% of the federal poverty level.

(3) Waived for individuals below 100% of the federal poverty level.

(4) An additional \$10 fee may apply for customization requests, waivable for low-income individuals. The NIA shall project annual fee revenue based on Census income data and adjust fee structures by Year 3 (2027) if collections fall below 50% of ongoing operational costs (e.g., card replacements, system maintenance), with adjustments submitted to Congress for review.

(c) Cost Overruns.-If expenses exceed projections by 20% in any year (e.g., exceeding \$15.6 billion for setup or \$4.56 billion annually for rollout), the NIA may request additional funding through emergency congressional appropriations. The NIA shall first implement cost-saving measures (e.g., bulk procurement, phased rural deployment) and report their impact within 60 days before seeking funds, with a goal of limiting overrun requests to once per phase (setup or rollout). Overruns shall be justified by specific triggers (e.g., 15% cost increase in production, rural delays), detailed in reports. The NIA shall submit a detailed justification report, including expense breakdowns, reasons for overruns (e.g., higher-than-expected application rates, technical upgrades), and mitigation strategies (e.g., fee adjustments, cost-saving measures).

(d) The NIA shall conduct an initial cost assessment by the end of Year 1 (December 31, 2025), based on setup spending and pilot planning, to validate the \$13 billion allocation, submitting findings to Congress with the first annual report (Section 11). A full cost-benefit analysis shall follow by the end of Year 2 (2026) to ensure fiscal responsibility and submit findings to Congress for review, including a breakdown of funding allocation for the \$0.8 billion (e.g., Travel Visa/passport coordination, special cards)). If capacity lags 20% below targets (e.g., <60M by 2026), NIA shall deploy emergency production boosts (e.g., contractor support) within 30 days, reported to Congress.

SEC. 11. OVERSIGHT.

(a) The NIA shall report annually to Congress, with biennial GAO audits, including updates on Travel Visa, state ID, passport, and passport card standardization, as well as the implementation of the Sporadic ID retirement list.

(b) The annual report shall include the initial and any updated lists of Sporadic IDs, a summary of public comments received, and the NIA's response, ensuring transparency and accountability in the retirement process.

(c) The NIA shall also include a summary of customization and special card adoption rates, updates to customization guidelines (including public comments received), progress on the REAL ID branding phase-out and state ID design alignment (including state participation rates and challenges), and any adjustments to timelines, grace periods, or resource allocation per section 7(f), to monitor progress and inform future policy.

(d) A Privacy and Civil Liberties Board shall handle complaints and ensure data security for all ID types. The Board shall have authority to investigate breaches, enforce standards, and recommend remedial actions to the NIA, with findings published annually.

SEC. 12. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act takes effect immediately, with implementation per section 7. The Act's mandatory use provisions shall be reviewed by an independent commission every 5 years starting 2035, assessing civil liberties impacts, with findings submitted to Congress for potential amendment. If the commission finds disproportionate barriers to access or significant civil liberties concerns unresolved within 12 months of the report, Congress shall re-evaluate mandatory use provisions within 6 months, with a vote required to renew or modify them; failing renewal, mandatory use for voting (Section 9(a)(1)), employment verification (Section 9(a)(3)), and federal benefits access (Section 9(a)(2)) shall be suspended, while UID Card and Green Card issuance and general use remain in effect. If mandatory use provisions lapse, Green Card issuance shall continue for immigration purposes, with alternative Green Cards meeting pre-2026 security standards until renewed.

SEC. 13. TRANSITION OF GREEN CARD AUTHORITY.

Effective January 1, 2026, the NIA shall assume USCIS's Green Card issuance functions, with USCIS databases, staff, and resources transferred to NIA by December 31, 2025, per a transition plan submitted to Congress by July 1, 2025. The plan shall detail transferable USCIS assets (e.g., biometric databases, personnel) and prioritize pending Green Card applications by expiration date during interim control. Relevant INA provisions shall be amended by Congress to reflect NIA authority by December 31, 2025. If USCIS fails to meet the December 31, 2025, transfer deadline, NIA may assume interim control of Green Card issuance using existing USCIS systems, with GAO oversight, ensuring no disruption for lawful permanent residents. Green Card holders with valid cards expiring in 2026 shall receive automatic 6-month extensions if NIA issuance lags, reported annually (Section 11).