

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: SB359

Bill Subtitle: TO REPEAL THE EXPIRATION DATE PROHIBITING THE ISSUANCE OF AN ENHANCED SECURITY DRIVER'S LICENSE, A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE, OR AN IDENTIFICATION CARD; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Basic Change :

Sponsor: Senator Sample

The Arkansas Voluntary Enhanced Security Driver's License and Identification Card Act has a sunset provision that states that it will expire on June 30, 2017. Since Arkansas is currently issuing these cards and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has deemed Arkansas to be a fully compliant state with the REAL ID Act of 2005, this sunset provision is no longer necessary and should be deleted from the Act.

Revenue Impact :

There is no revenue impact if this bill is passed. If the bill is not passed, then DFA will no longer be able to issue REAL-ID compliant cards effective June 30, 2017.

Taxpayer Impact :

If this bill is not passed, Arkansas will no longer be deemed a compliant state by the U.S Department of Homeland Security. If this bill is not passed, non-compliant cards will be issued by DFA and taxpayers would be required to provide additional documentation to enter federal facilities or board airplanes in the United States in the future. The Arkansas driver's license and identification cards will no longer be acceptable for federal identification purposes.

Resources Required :

No additional resources are required if this bill is passed.

Time Required :

None.

Procedural Changes :

None.

Other Comments :

Arkansas has been issuing Arkansas Voluntary Enhanced Security Driver's Licenses and Identification cards since October 3, 2016.

Legal Analysis :

SB359 repeals § 27-16-1213 which establishes the expiration date of the REAL ID Act of 2005 allowing DFA to issue enhanced drivers' licenses and ID cards. Enhanced drivers' licenses and ID cards are necessary for certain federal identification and will soon be required for airline travel. The expiration date is currently June 30, 2017. SB359 repeals that expiration date and allows enhanced driver's licenses and ID cards to be issued by DFA indefinitely.