

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 237(JUD)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Offered: 3/23/26

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to data sharing by the Department of Administration for driver's**
2 **license data verification purposes; and providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 *** Section 1.** AS 28.05.068(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) If the department conveys, distributes, or communicates data to be used in
6 a database, index, pointer system, or any other system managed by an entity other than
7 the department [, INCLUDING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MOTOR
8 VEHICLE ADMINISTRATORS,] to comply with the requirements of P.L. 109-13,
9 Division B (REAL ID Act of 2005), the department may not convey, distribute, or
10 communicate to that entity any data not required to be conveyed, distributed, or
11 communicated for the state to be certified by the United States Department of
12 Homeland Security to be in compliance with the requirements of P.L. 109-13,
13 Division B (REAL ID Act of 2005).

14 *** Sec. 2.** AS 28.05.068(b) is amended to read:

1 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the department may [NOT] convey,
2 distribute, or communicate **data** to a private entity **only** [ANY SCANNED OR
3 STORED DOCUMENTS COLLECTED IN ORDER] to carry out the provisions of
4 **AS 28.15.151(g)** [AS 28.15].

5 * **Sec. 3.** AS 28.15.151 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (g) The department shall, upon the request of a person or the person's
7 designee, furnish information about the person maintained by the department under
8 this section to a nonprofit organization or governmental or tribal entity approved by
9 the United States Social Security Administration to facilitate driver's license data
10 verification. In this subsection, "nonprofit organization" means an organization that
11 qualifies for exemption from taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) or (4) (Internal
12 Revenue Code).

13 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

SENATE BILL NO. 237

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THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BY REQUEST

Introduced: 2/9/26

Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary

A BILL

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8 entity approved by the United States Social Security Administration to facilitate
9 driver's license data verification. In this subsection, "nonprofit organization" means an
10 organization that qualifies for exemption from taxation under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) or
11 (4) (Internal Revenue Code).

12 * **Sec. 4.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).



Senator Scott Jiu Wo Kawasaki

Serving Fairbanks, Fort Wainwright & Badger Road

Sponsor Statement - SB 237 - 34-LS1428\N

“An Act relating to data sharing by the Department of Administration for driver’s license data verification purposes; and providing for an effective date.”

Senate Bill 237 makes changes to the Alaska statute to allow Alaskans to apply online to replace a lost Social Security card. We are the only state in the union that does not allow a fully online process for this common occurrence. Currently, citizens must either travel to one of the three Social Security Administration offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau or mail their sensitive documents to those locations to replace a lost card. This practice is time-consuming, costly and inefficient.

For Alaskans who live in one of the three cities with a Social Security Administration office, replacing a lost card is an inconvenient afternoon. It could mean lost time at work and frustration dealing with lines, missing documents and bureaucracy. According to the US Census Bureau, hundreds of thousands of Alaskans do not live in these urban centers. For those individuals, replacing a lost card requires either traveling long distances to an office or mailing sensitive original documents.

The hardship of not enacting SB 237 would be felt the most by our rural communities. They would travel hundreds of miles at their own expense to verify their identity in person. For those unable to afford travel, mailing their original documents is their only option. Mail service in rural Alaska is less reliable than in city centers. Which means a person’s driver’s license, passport, or birth certificate can get lost in the mail. The entire process of mailing original documents to replace a lost Social Security card can take up to 45 days, leaving the citizen unable to verify their identity during that time.

Enacting SB 237 and enabling Alaskans to apply for lost Social Security cards online would eliminate several barriers rural Alaskans face in this process. They would no longer have to spend money traveling to a city center or fear that their sensitive documents would be lost in the mail. It would also be convenient for our urban citizens who would appreciate the time saved in their days.

I urge you to support me in the passage of SB 237 to eliminate the barriers to replacing a lost Social Security Card for all citizens of Alaska.



Senator Scott Jiu Wo Kawasaki

Serving Fairbanks, Fort Wainwright & Badger Road

Senate Bill 237 – 34-LS1428\N

“An Act relating to data sharing by the Department of Administration for driver’s license data verification purposes; and providing for an effective date.”

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

Section 1:

Amends AS 28.05.08(a) to remove the reference to the American Association of Motor vehicle Administrators in a ban on information sharing information beyond what is mandated by the REAL ID Act of 2005.

Section 2:

Amends AS 28.05.068(b) to convert an outright ban on data sharing with a private entity to a provision that allows them to do so only as necessary under the provision added in Section 3.

Section 3:

Adds subsection (g) to AS 28.15.151, allowing for information sharing with nonprofit organizations, governmental, or tribal entities approved by the United States Social Security Administration to facilitate driver’s license data verification. This section further defines a nonprofit organization as one that qualifies for exemption under 26 U.S. 501 (c)(3).

Section 4:

Provides an immediate effective date for this measure.



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Judiciary Committee

SEN. MATT CLAMAN

Chairman

State Capitol, Room 429

Juneau, AK 99801

907.465.4919

Senator Jesse Kiehl, Vice Chair

Senator Gary Stevens

Senator Löki Tobin

Senator Cathy Tilton

SENATE BILL 237: DATA SHARING; SOCIAL SECURITY

"An Act relating to data sharing by the Department of Administration for driver's license data verification purposes; and providing for an effective date."

Summary of Changes

Version A to Version N

Title change.

Section 3

Page 2, line 6-7:

Delete: "request"

Insert: "upon the request of a person or the person's designee"

Insert following "information": "about the person"

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2026 Legislative Session

Bill Version:	SB 237
Fiscal Note Number:	1
(S) Publish Date:	3/4/2026

Identifier: SB237-DOA-DMV-2-20-26
 Title: DATA SHARING; SOCIAL SECURITY
 Sponsor: STATE AFFAIRS
 Requester: (S) JUDICIARY

Department: Department of Administration
 Appropriation: Motor Vehicles
 Allocation: Motor Vehicles
 OMB Component Number: 2348

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2027	Included in	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
	Appropriation Requested	Governor's FY2027 Request	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2027	FY 2027					
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2026) cost: 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2027) cost: 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*

Does the bill create or modify a new fund or account? No
(Supplemental/Capital/New Fund - discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? **Yes**
 If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? **07/01/26**

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By:	Mekayla Ruiz	Phone:	(907)217-3989
Division:	Motor Vehicles	Date:	02/20/2026
Approved By:	Stefanie Bingham, Administrative Services Director	Date:	02/20/26
Agency:	Department of Administration		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

STATE OF ALASKA
2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Analysis

This bill clarifies Alaska Statutes related to data sharing by specifying the circumstances under which the Department of Administration may share driver's license information and identifying the entities with whom such data sharing is permitted.

The Division of Motor Vehicles does not anticipate a fiscal impact and therefore submits a zero fiscal note.

SB 237

“An Act relating to data sharing by the Department of Administration for driver’s license data verification purposes; and providing for an effective date.”



Sponsor: Senator Scott Kawasaki
Staff: Jenna Colquhoun

What SB 237 Does

- Amends AS 28.05.068 to allow the Department of Administration to share data with the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators
- Amends AS 28.05.068(b) to allow the Department of Administration to convey, distribute, or communicate data to a private entity to carry out the provisions of AS 28.15.151
 - AS 28.15.151 deals with the sharing of an individual's abstract of their driving record, which includes their...
 - Full legal name
 - Date of birth
 - Driver's license number
- Amends AS 28.15.151 by adding a subsection (g) to protect Alaskans' data by ensuring it is only shared with "a nonprofit organization, governmental, or tribal entity"

Need for SB 237

- These statutory changes make it so that Alaskans can apply for a replacement Social Security card online
- Alaska is the ONLY state in the union that does not allow for online replacement of Social Security Cards
- Each year, over 15,000 Alaskans need a replacement Social Security card
 - To replace a Social Security card, an Alaskan must travel to...
 - Anchorage
 - Fairbanks
 - Juneau
- This costs individual Alaskans, especially those in the Rural part of the state, time, money, and stress
- SB 237 modernizes the Social Security card process and eliminates unneeded travel for our Rural citizens

Questions?

Thank you for your time



QuickFacts Alaska

QuickFacts provides statistics for all states and counties. Also for cities and towns with a **population of 5,000 or more**.

Enter state, county, city, town, or zip code

-- Select a fact --



Table

All Topics



Alaska

Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024) ▲ 740,133

PEOPLE

Population

Population estimates, July 1, 2025, (V2025)	▲ 737,270
Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024)	▲ 740,133
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2025)	▲ 733,383
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2024)	▲ 733,395
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2025, (V2025)	▲ 0.5%
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2024, (V2024)	▲ 0.9%
Population, Census, April 1, 2020	733,391
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	710,231

Age and Sex

Persons under 5 years, percent	▲ 6.2%
Persons under 18 years, percent	▲ 23.6%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	▲ 14.8%
Female persons, percent	▲ 47.5%

Race and Hispanic Origin

White alone, percent	▲ 63.8%
Black alone, percent (a)	▲ 3.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	▲ 15.5%
Asian alone, percent (a)	▲ 7.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	▲ 1.8%
Two or More Races, percent	▲ 8.2%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	▲ 7.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	▲ 58.5%

Population Characteristics

Veterans, 2020-2024	57,477
Foreign born persons, percent, 2020-2024	7.7%

Housing

Housing Units, July 1, 2024, (V2024)	330,463
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2020-2024	66.8%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2020-2024	\$352,900
Median selected monthly owner costs - with a mortgage, 2020-2024	\$2,229
Median selected monthly owner costs - without a mortgage, 2020-2024	\$690
Median gross rent, 2020-2024	\$1,419
Building Permits, 2024	1,032

Families & Living Arrangements

Households, 2020-2024	270,533
Persons per household, 2020-2024	2.61
Living in the same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+ , 2020-2024	85.5%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2020-2024	

Computer and Internet Use

Households with a computer, percent, 2020-2024	
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Is this page helpful? ✕





QuickFacts

Anchorage municipality, Alaska

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Enter state, county, city, town, or zip code

-- Select a fact --



Table

All Topics



Anchorage municipality, Alaska

Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024) ▲ 289,600



Population

Population estimates, July 1, 2025, (V2025) ▲ NA

Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024) ▲ 289,600

Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2025) ▲ NA

Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2024) ▲ 291,246

Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2025, (V2025) ▲ NA

Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2024, (V2024) ▲ -0.6%

Population, Census, April 1, 2020 291,247

Population, Census, April 1, 2010 291,826

Age and Sex

Persons under 5 years, percent ▲ 6.3%

Persons under 18 years, percent ▲ 23.5%

Persons 65 years and over, percent ▲ 12.9%

Female persons, percent ▲ 48.9%

Race and Hispanic Origin

White alone, percent ▲ 56.8%

Black alone, percent ▲ 5.0% (a)

American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent ▲ 7.3% (a)

Asian alone, percent ▲ 10.0% (a)

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent ▲ 3.1% (a)

Two or More Races, percent ▲ 14.6%

Hispanic or Latino, percent ▲ 9.5% (b)

White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent ▲ 54.2%

Population Characteristics

Veterans, 2020-2024 23,058

Foreign born persons, percent, 2020-2024 10.9%

Housing

Housing Units, July 1, 2024, (V2024) X

Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2020-2024 63.9%

Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2020-2024 \$395,900

Median selected monthly owner costs - with a mortgage, 2020-2024 \$2,400

Median selected monthly owner costs - without a mortgage, 2020-2024 \$901

Median gross rent, 2020-2024 \$1,489

Building Permits, 2024 X

Families & Living Arrangements

Households, 2020-2024 108,597

Persons per household, 2020-2024 2.59

Living in the same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+ , 2020-2024 83.7%

Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2020-2024

Computer and Internet Use

Households with a computer, percent, 2020-2024

Is this page helpful? X





QuickFacts Fairbanks North Star Borough, Alaska

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Enter state, county, city, town, or zip code

-- Select a fact --



Table

All Topics	🔍	Fairbanks North Star Borough, Alaska
Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024)		94,951
PEOPLE		
Population		
Population estimates, July 1, 2025, (V2025)		NA
Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024)		94,951
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2025)		NA
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2024)		95,667
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2025, (V2025)		NA
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2024, (V2024)		-0.7%
Population, Census, April 1, 2020		95,655
Population, Census, April 1, 2010		97,581
Age and Sex		
Persons under 5 years, percent		6.8%
Persons under 18 years, percent		23.3%
Persons 65 years and over, percent		13.5%
Female persons, percent		46.2%
Race and Hispanic Origin		
White alone, percent		74.6%
Black alone, percent (a)		5.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)		8.3%
Asian alone, percent (a)		3.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)		0.8%
Two or More Races, percent		7.5%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)		9.2%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent		67.7%
Population Characteristics		
Veterans, 2020-2024		8,820
Foreign born persons, percent, 2020-2024		5.6%
Housing		
Housing Units, July 1, 2024, (V2024)		42,723
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2020-2024		61.7%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2020-2024		\$298,200
Median selected monthly owner costs - with a mortgage, 2020-2024		\$2,194
Median selected monthly owner costs - without a mortgage, 2020-2024		\$751
Median gross rent, 2020-2024		\$1,459
Building Permits, 2024		18
Families & Living Arrangements		
Households, 2020-2024		36,359
Persons per household, 2020-2024		2.51
Living in the same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+ , 2020-2024		82.2%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2020-2024		
Computer and Internet Use		
Households with a computer, percent, 2020-2024		

Is this page helpful? ✕

👍 Yes 👎 No



QuickFacts Juneau city and borough, Alaska

QuickFacts provides statistics for all states and counties. Also for cities and towns with a *population of 5,000 or more*.

Enter state, county, city, town, or zip code

-- Select a fact --



Table

All Topics



Juneau city and borough, Alaska

Veteran-owned employer firms, Reference year 2022

S

PEOPLE

Population

Population estimates, July 1, 2025, (V2025)	NA
Population estimates, July 1, 2024, (V2024)	31,572
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2025)	NA
Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2024)	32,250
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2025, (V2025)	NA
Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1, 2024, (V2024)	-2.1%
Population, Census, April 1, 2020	32,255
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	31,275

Age and Sex

Persons under 5 years, percent	4.7%
Persons under 18 years, percent	20.4%
Persons 65 years and over, percent	16.0%
Female persons, percent	49.2%

Race and Hispanic Origin

White alone, percent	62.6%
Black alone, percent (a)	0.7%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent (a)	8.8%
Asian alone, percent (a)	7.5%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent (a)	1.3%
Two or More Races, percent	17.8%
Hispanic or Latino, percent (b)	7.1%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent	61.4%

Population Characteristics

Veterans, 2020-2024	1,725
Foreign born persons, percent, 2020-2024	7.7%

Housing

Housing Units, July 1, 2024, (V2024)	X
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2020-2024	63.6%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2020-2024	\$449,300
Median selected monthly owner costs - with a mortgage, 2020-2024	\$2,352
Median selected monthly owner costs - without a mortgage, 2020-2024	\$912
Median gross rent, 2020-2024	\$1,444
Building Permits, 2024	X

Families & Living Arrangements

Households, 2020-2024	13,167
Persons per household, 2020-2024	2.36
Living in the same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+ , 2020-2024	88.7%
Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5 years+, 2020-2024	

Computer and Internet Use

Households with a computer, percent, 2020-2024	
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Is this page helpful? X



LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICES

34th Alaska Legislature
LRS Report 25-192
April 4, 2025



(907) 465-3991
research@akleg.gov

Data Sharing Between the Alaska Division of Motor Vehicles and Social Security Administration

Kate Higgins, Research Manager

You asked for information detailing why Alaskans are unable to request a replacement Social Security card online.

You explained that your office was recently advised that Alaska is the only state where residents are unable to apply online for a replacement Social Security card. You were told that a 2021 change in state law caused the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to stop participating in the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA). And, because the Social Security Administration (SSA) uses the AAMVA to verify identities, state residents cannot apply for a replacement card online. You asked for information about the statute that caused the change.

In short, the change was prompted, not because of a statutory change, but based on advice from the Department of Law that *AS 28.15.151* does not authorize the DMV to share the otherwise confidential information needed to facilitate the data verification service through AAMVA.

Social Security Administration

We contacted the applicable SSA Regional Data Exchange Coordinators to confirm whether Alaskans can apply for a replacement Social Security card online, and received the following information:

We have two processes at the Social Security Administration (SSA) that allow a customer to request a replacement SSN card. One process is called the Internet Social Security Number Replacement Card (iSSNRC), and the other is titled the Online Social Security Number Application Process (oSSNAP).

Per the iSSNRC *policy*, "(iSSNRC) is a secure automated (SSN) application process, which allows members of the public who meet certain criteria to apply for a no change SSN replacement card or last name change replacement SSN card due to marriage electronically."

On or around May 28, 2021, Alaska stopped participating in the Driver License Data Verification (DLDV) service provided by the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA). As a result, AAMVA had to shut down DLDV service with Alaska effective with the same date. SSA used DLDV to verify a customer's identity for iSSNRC transactions. Due to the inability to verify customer information, Alaskans have been unable to utilize iSSNRC since May 28, 2021. SSA was not involved in the decision since the contract was between Alaska and AAMVA.

According to oSSNAP *policy*, “(oSSNAP) is a partially automated web application, which allows applicants who meet certain criteria to start and submit an SSN application online for either: an original SSN card; a replacement SSN card that requires no change to the SSN record; or a replacement SSN card that requires a name change on the SSN record. These applicants need to provide all required evidentiary documents to the local Social Security Administration field office (FO) or Social Security Card Center (SSCC). The applicant must do this within 45 calendar days from the oSSNAP submission date to complete the process.”

Therefore, an Alaskan can utilize oSSNAP to request a replacement SSN card online. However, oSSNAP requires that the customer submit their evidentiary documents to a local office in person or via mail. This is in contrast to iSSNRC, which requires no additional action from the customer.

American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

According to its *website*, the AAMVA consists of American and Canadian officials responsible for administering and enforcing motor vehicle laws. It provides a “variety of technology services including *system applications, network services, software products, and standards* that enable members to securely share driver, vehicle, and identity verification data with organizations.”

The *Driver’s License Data Verification* service lists 44 states as participating with no restrictions, and five as participating “SSA only.” Alaska is listed as “under review,” however, and the AAMVA provided the following information about Alaska’s participation:

Alaska is the only state where residents cannot request a replacement SS card online. The reason is that requesting a replacement card online requires verification of the individual’s identity through AAMVA’s Driver License Data Verification (DLDV) service, and the Alaska DMV is not participating in DLDV. Alaska being listed as “Under Review” on the DLDV map is likely not the case at this time.

AAMVA’s understanding is that the Alaska DMV’s participation in DLDV is prohibited by Alaska statute, so participation would require a change to Alaska law. The Alaska DMV asked for this change as part of a DMV omnibus bill put forward in the 2024 legislative session (and prior sessions); however, the bill was not picked up by the Alaska Governor’s office. With the change in AK DMV leadership this past year, advancing AK’s participation in DLDV may have fallen off the radar for the most recent legislative session.

We note, however, that Alaska is a member of and participates in other verification programs administered by AAMVA, including the State to State data exchange, passport and lawful status verification programs, as evidenced by current payments shown the online *Checkbook Alaska*.

Division of Motor Vehicles

Department of Administration Legislative Liaison Forrest Wolfe provided the following information:

The reason for ending the DLDV agreement with AAMVA, which provided the data verification service to SSA, is that Department of LAW concluded upon extensive analysis of current Alaska statutes that the service was in conflict with *AS 28.15.151*, which defined the information being verified as “private and confidential,” and thus could not be confirmed.

The specific information being verified was an applicant’s name, address, date of birth, and social security number. AAMVA administered the program, acquired data verification from Alaska DMV, then conveyed a simple “match” or “no match” response to SSA, then deleted the verified data from their system. LAW recommended ending the agreement due to conflict with statute, and DMV opted not to renew the agreement based on this recommendation. Alaska, while now compliant with statute, is now the only state in the union without an active or pending agreement to provide this verification service for its citizens.

The DMV has consistently recommended the drafting of legislation that would explicitly authorize the DLDV verification service, thereby clearly defining the exception to *AS 28.15.151*.

State law

Alaska Statute 28.15.151 provides the Department of Administration shall maintain a file of “every driver’s license application, license or permit, and duplicate driver’s license issued by it,” as well as information about licensing actions including suspensions and revocations, accident reports, and actions disqualifying individuals from operating commercial vehicles. Subsections (c) and (d) allow the department to release abstracts of an individual’s driving record under specific circumstances. Subsection (f) provides that “information and records under this section are declared confidential and private” except as otherwise provided in the section and in *AS 15.07.195*.¹

In addition to *AS 28.15.151*, however, another statute may also hinder the department’s ability to participate in the DLDV verification service. In 2017, the legislature repealed a provision of state law prohibiting the state from expending funds to implement REAL ID, and authorized the Department of Administration to offer a REAL ID compliant driver’s license (*ch. 8 SLA 2017; HB 16*). At the time, the state was facing the end of an extension granted by the federal government to implement REAL ID, at which time Alaska drivers’ licenses would no longer be sufficient to visit military bases or go through

¹ *AS 28.15.151(f)* was amended in 2016 to add the reference to *AS 15.07.195* (SB 9, ch. 13 SLA 2016). The purpose of the amendment was to “make explicitly clear that [the State of Alaska] has the authority to share the data that the Division of Elections gets from DMV with participating states under the ERIC [Electronic Registration Information Center] project” (Testimony of Assistant Attorney General Libby Bakalar, *House State Affairs Committee*, January 26, 2016, beginning at time stamp 9:44:03 AM).

airport security.² However, many in the legislature and public were concerned about what they believed was an overreach of federal authority and invasions of personal privacy.

HB 16 also added a prohibition on data sharing. *AS 28.05.068* provides in part:

(a) If the department conveys, distributes, or communicates data to be used in a database, index, pointer system, or any other system managed by an entity other than the department, including the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, to comply with the requirements of P.L. 109-13, Division B (REAL ID Act of 2005), the department may not convey, distribute, or communicate to that entity any data not required to be conveyed, distributed, or communicated for the state to be certified by the United States Department of Homeland Security to be in compliance with the requirements of P.L. 109-13, Division B (REAL ID Act of 2005)."

(b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, the department may not convey, distribute, or communicate to a private entity any scanned or stored documents collected in order to carry out the provisions of AS 28.15 [drivers' licenses].

This provision took effect on January 1, 2019.

Because these provisions were rolled into *HB 16* during the last days of session, relevant legislative history can be found in *SB 34* and *HB 74*, companion bills introduced at the request of the governor. Both bills were the subject of much public and legislative interest, especially relating to information sharing.

Committee minutes reveal that one of the larger concerns was the sharing of five digits of Alaskans' social security numbers as part of the *State to State* (S2S) verification service administered by the AAMVA. Legislators voiced concern that "SSNs [social security numbers] are not required by the REAL ID Act; however, participation in a S2S system is required. There is only S2S system – the one administered by AAMVA – and since S2S requires SSNs, by default REAL ID does require SSNs" (Comments by Rep. Wool, [House State Affairs Committee](#), April 4, 2017; relevant discussion begins at time stamp 6:03:15 PM). Information from the S2S webpage states "Participation in S2S does not commit a state to be in compliance with the federal REAL ID Act. However, if a state chooses to be REAL ID compliant, the Department of Homeland Security generally looks for S2S to be part of their compliance plan." These concerns appear to have led to the establishment of the prohibition on data sharing.

We hope this is helpful. If you have questions or need additional information, please let us know.

² We note that the current *REAL ID effective date* is set for May 7, 2025.

Online Social Security Card Replacement

- Each year 15,000 Alaskan residents need a replacement social security card.
 - 13,400 residents travel to one of 3 SSA field offices (1,180 to Juneau; 8,898 to Anchorage; 3,318 to Fairbanks) and 1,600 use mail (sending original documents).
- Many residents travel long distances and incur high costs for flights, ferry trips, hotels etc. to visit a field office when they could order a card online.
- Alaska is the only State in the country that has not enabled online card replacement for its residents.
- Alaska could also enable name changes to be completed online.
- In 2019, Alaska was actually one of the first States to enable online card renewal until a legal concern was raised in 2021 and stopped participation
- There is no cost to implementation, and it could be operational in 4-6 weeks after enactment.
- Either HB213 and HB180 would give the State the authority needed to resume participation saving its residents significant time and money.



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