



Real ID Act:
An Attack on American Values
A Real Nightmare for New York

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Legislative History

- In 2004, 9/11 Commission recommended minimum standards for driver's licenses
 - The Commission urged the federal government to ensure that driver's license applicants do not rely on fraudulent documents
 - Specifically, it recommended that:

“Recommendation: Secure identification should begin in the United States. The federal government should set standards for the issuance of birth certificates and sources of identification, such as drivers licenses. Fraud in identification documents is no longer just a problem of theft. At many entry points to vulnerable facilities, including gates for boarding aircraft, sources of identification are the last opportunity to ensure that people are who they say they are and to check whether they are terrorists.”
(emphasis added)

- In December 2004, Congress passed the “Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act”
 - Purpose of the Act was to implement the recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission
 - Created a negotiated rulemaking process to establish new federal standards for the issuance of state driver’s licenses
 - Members of the bipartisan rulemaking body included federal, state and local government officials, as well as privacy groups and other stakeholders

