

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2025 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 3330**

By Delegates Flanigan and Kump

[Introduced March 12, 2025; referred to the  
Committee on Government Organization]

**FISCAL  
NOTE**

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding a new article,  
2 designated §17B-2C-1d, relating to identification cards; providing a purpose, short title,  
3 and legislative findings; providing a waiver of fees; creating an application process;  
4 clarifying document requirements; creating mobile identification services; requiring the  
5 Division of Motor Vehicle to develop a program for fingerprint identification; requiring the  
6 Division of Motor Vehicle to provide outreach and education and to do so within a certain  
7 period of time; providing an effective date; and authorizing rule making.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 2C. ACCESS TO IDENTIFICATION ACT.**

**§17B-2C-1d. Improving access to government identification.**

1 (a) Purpose: To establish a simplified and more accessible process for obtaining  
2 government-issued identification cards in West Virginia, ensuring that all residents, regardless of  
3 income or background, have equitable access to necessary identification.

4 (b) Short title: This article may be cited as the "West Virginia Access to Identification Act."

5 (c) Legislative findings: The Legislature finds that:

6 (1) A government-issued identification is necessary for accessing essential services,  
7 voting, healthcare, and employment;

8 (2) Many West Virginians, especially those from low-income, rural, or marginalized  
9 communities, face significant barriers in obtaining government-issued identification due to cost,  
10 lack of required documentation, and transportation issues; and

11 (3) It is the goal of this article to reduce these barriers and ensure that every West Virginian  
12 has the opportunity to obtain a valid form of identification.

13 (d) Expansion of identification access:

14 (1) Waiver of fees:

15 (A) The state shall provide a waiver for the application fees for government identification  
16 cards for individuals who demonstrate financial hardship.

17 (B) A streamlined application process shall be created for individuals receiving public  
18 assistance, including but not limited to, SNAP, Medicaid, and other state-provided benefits.

19 (C) No fee shall be required for the first issuance of an ID for individuals under 18 years of  
20 age.

21 (2) Simplified Documentation Requirements:

22 (A) Applicants for government identification shall not be required to submit multiple forms  
23 of documentation proving identity, residency, or citizenship.

24 (B) The state shall accept secondary forms of identification, such as utility bills, school  
25 records, or other documents that prove identity and residency.

26 (C) A grace period of 30 days shall be provided for individuals to gather additional  
27 documentation needed for identification issuance.

28 (e) Mobile Identification Services:

29 (1) The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) shall implement mobile services capable of  
30 issuing government identification at locations throughout the state, particularly in rural or  
31 underserved areas.

32 (2) Mobile ID units will visit community centers, senior living centers, and other public  
33 spaces on a regular schedule.

34 (3) The state shall collaborate with local governments and nonprofit organizations to  
35 ensure widespread outreach and availability of mobile ID services.

36 (f) Fingerprint identification.

37 The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) shall develop a fingerprint program for identification  
38 purposes and shall make and publish such rules and regulations, not inconsistent with this article,  
39 as it finds necessary or appropriate to the efficient administration of the functions with which it is  
40 charged under this article.

41 (g) Outreach and Education.

42 (1) The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) shall launch a public awareness campaign to

43 educate West Virginians about the process of obtaining identification cards, including information  
44 on eligibility for fee waivers and available mobile services.

45 (2) Community organizations, schools, and public libraries shall be included in outreach  
46 efforts to provide information and assistance in navigating the ID application process.

47 (h) Implementation.

48 (1) The Division of Motor Vehicles shall be responsible for implementing the provisions of  
49 this Act within 12 months of its passage.

50 (2) The Department of Health and Human Resources shall assist in facilitating outreach to  
51 individuals receiving public assistance.

52 (i) Effective Date: This article shall take effect upon passage, and all regulations and  
53 processes outlined within it shall be fully implemented within one year from the effective date.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to improve access to government identification for the homeless and elderly.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.