# REAL ID READY | TALKING POINTS

General talking points that can be used during speaking engagements, to inform staff and stakeholders, and when talking with media or elected officials.

#### IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE STAR, YOU WON'T GO FAR

Starting May 3, 2023, every American adult traveling by air will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license, an enhanced driver's license or another acceptable form of ID to fly within the U.S.

- REAL ID driver's license are generally marked with a star in the upper corner of the card.
- An enhanced driver's license is offered in MI, MN, NY, VT and WA and is generally marked with a U.S. flag.
- Other forms of acceptable ID include: United States passport or passport card, U.S. military ID, DHS trusted traveler cards (Global Entry, NEXUS, SENTRI, FAST).

#### This requires many Americans to update their current driver's license before May 3, 2023.

- An estimated 83 million Americans (34%) currently do not have any form of ID that would be accepted on May 3, 2023.
- Many Americans (39%) are unaware that the May 3, 2023 enforcement deadline will require a REAL ID to travel by air.

### It is critical that all adult Americans confirm they have a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or another acceptable form of identification before May 3, 2023 to minimize disruption at airports.

- If REAL ID enforcement were implemented today, an estimated 67,400 travelers could be turned away on the first day, resulting in \$34.9 million (excluding airfares) in lost travel spending on the first day.
- If this daily impact lasted a week, an estimated 471,800 air travelers could be turned away in the first week, costing travel businesses nearly \$244 million in lost spending.

#### **HOW TRAVELERS CAN PREPARE**

U.S. residents are encouraged to check with their state's DMV to ensure their ID is REAL ID-compliant.

Each state requires several forms of identification and cost varies. This information is available on state DMV websites.

For more information, visit the Transportation Security Administration or U.S. Department of Homeland Security REAL ID websites (tsa.gov/real-id and dhs.gov/real-id).

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### HOW THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY IS HELPING TRAVELERS PREPARE

We are working with U.S. Travel Association, other industry stakeholders and government officials to help get the word out about REAL ID compliance and the May 3, 2023 deadline.

- Our industry's year-long effort includes a public education initiative to inform, engage and encourage the traveling public to obtain a REAL ID well ahead of the compliance deadline.
- Additionally, we are providing policy recommendations Congress and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security can consider in order to provide travelers with temporary or permanent alternatives to board commercial flights in the absence of a REAL ID form of identification, including:
  - 1. Modernize the REAL ID statute.
  - 2. Designate registered traveler enrollment as an acceptable alternative.
  - 3. Transition TSA checkpoints to automated identity verification.
  - 4. Develop alternative screening procedures for travelers without acceptable identifications.

For more information visit ustravel.org/REALID.

#### **ABOUT REAL ID**

In 2005, Congress passed the REAL ID Act to set standards for the issuance of sources of identification, such as driver's licenses. On May 3, 2023 all Americans will need a REAL-ID compliant driver's license or another accepted form of identification to go through airport security.