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## REAL ID reincarnated with a new name: "PASS ID"

POSTED BY [XENI JARDIN](#), AUGUST 20, 2009 3:38 PM | [PERMALINK](#)

Snip from a news item posted to the [EFF's Deep Links](#) blog by [Richard Esguerra](#):

In February, opponents of REAL ID were given a bit of hope when Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said that she wanted to repeal the REAL ID Act, the federal government's [failed plan](#) to impose a national identification card through state driver's licenses. But what has taken place since is no return to sanity, as [political machi nations](#) have produced a cosmetic makeover called "PASS ID" that has revived the push for a national identification card.

The PASS ID Act ([S. 1261](#)) seeks to make many of the same ineffectual, dangerous changes the REAL ID Act attempted to impose. Fundamentally, PASS ID operates on the same flawed premise of REAL ID -- that requiring various "identity documents" (and storing that information in databases for later access) will magically make state drivers' licenses more legitimate, which will in turn improve national security.

[PASS ID: REAL ID Reanimated](#) (*EFF Deep Links*)

Some helpful background on REAL ID in the [Wikipedia subject entry](#).

*Previously:*

- [Montana Governor explains why Real ID sucks](#)
- [California asks for Real ID extension, but won't promise to comply ...](#)
- [Real ID foes manage to block mandatory carding -- for now. -](#)
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## Discussion

#1 POSTED BY [MELLOWKNEES](#), AUGUST 20, 2009 4:05 PM

this comment has nothing to do with PASS ID, but I just want to say that I think we, the BB readers, are owed a Unicorn Chaser after this many horrifying, awful, and generally heavy articles.

#2 POSTED BY ANONYMOUS, AUGUST 20, 2009 4:12 PM

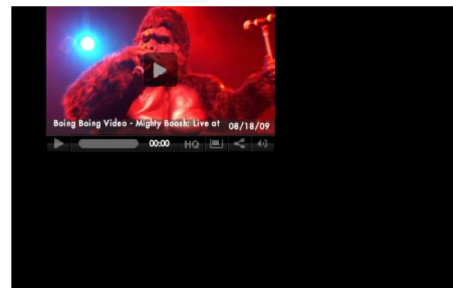
Like the Real ID act this bill requires that the ID card contain a "digital photograph" without ever defining that phrase. My interpretation of this phrase is either a photograph encoded in a computer readable form or a photograph of one of more of a person's fingers. Neither seems terribly useful. The ID needs an analog photograph so that a human being can read the photograph and compare it to the person's actual appearance.

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#3 POSTED BY [CRASHSYSTEMS](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 4:21 PM](#)

Starting 1 January my home state of Florida will be complying with the Real ID act. After convincing a teacher at a local private highschool to have all the students read Little Brother, they have all decided to destroy the RFID chips in their drivers licenses.

#4 POSTED BY [ERINDIPITY](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 4:25 PM](#)

FAIL ID

#5 POSTED BY [ORWELLIAN](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 4:40 PM](#)

Well, it isn't secure and is a privacy nightmare and will accomplish the opposite of its stated goals, but at least it will create jobs in the Faraday cage industry.

@mellowknees, I find looking at lolcats does the same thing.

#6 POSTED BY [WEBMONKEES](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 5:27 PM](#)

Still haven't figured out why the driver's license folks requiring a birth certificate to get a photo id. I look nothing like that now.

#7 POSTED BY [ANONYMOUS](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 6:25 PM](#)

I'm like a more low tech approach. Something that doesn't require a computer to read and you want every forget to take it with you. Since tattoos are very popular these days, what about just tattooing a number on everybody?

#8 POSTED BY [GETJUSTIN](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 9:23 PM](#)

Anything to keep out them ferners.

#9 POSTED BY [TAKUAN](#), [AUGUST 20, 2009 9:46 PM](#)

"wheahs yoah pass, boyuh?"

#10 POSTED BY [MATTDIDTHAT](#), [AUGUST 21, 2009 1:09 AM](#)

We already have a National ID Card. It's called a "Passport."

#11 POSTED BY [BJACQUES](#), [AUGUST 21, 2009 3:36 AM](#)

Except it's not mandatory to have one. It's just a good idea. PASS ID is a stupid name for it. "Let's see your pass." They should have called it the SAFE ID or something else with a warm and fuzzy name.

#12 POSTED BY [SHADOWFIREBIRD](#), [AUGUST 21, 2009 8:03 AM](#)

"Let's see your Magic Rainbow Ticket".

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"I loved it, but it really smelled terrible. All the gull poop, I guess. It's still totally awesome ..."

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