

Please consider co-sponsoring HB 1783 to prohibit implementation of the Real ID Act of 2005 in Pennsylvania.

The Real ID Act of 2005 is but one cog in the wheel of a very disturbing situation facing our nation. This act violates our right to privacy, our religious freedom, and subjects us to identity theft. Homeland Security uses PennDOT to enroll us into a worldwide biometric system. Via this act, the Federal Government has also violated the Tenth Amendment to the US Constitution.

Our nation was created because we have "*unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.*" - *Declaration of Independence*. An antonym of liberty is control.

We now have a federal government that has incrementally usurped the powers of the state and the people. In violation of the US Constitution, the federal government has also created laws, like the Patriot Act and Military Commissions Act, effectively gutting the Fourth Amendment to the US Constitution. Recently, the federal government passed the National Defense Authorization Act of 2012, which has effectively gutted the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth amendments to the US Constitution. In addition, we have been mandated to buy health insurance.

It appears the states and citizens are losing control while the federal government is usurping the powers of the states and the people.

In a recent "News With Views" article by Timothy N. Baldwin, JD, he says:

In Federalist Paper 46, Madison discusses the happy and healthy situation where the Federal and State governments respect their constitutional boundaries. Madison says, "[the federal government will] be disinclined to invade the rights of the individual States, or the prerogatives of their governments". Congress would be the "guardians of a common interest" and would not make "improper sacrifices...of local considerations, to the aggrandizement of the federal government".

Madison continues, "the motives on the part of the States governments, to augment their prerogatives...will be overruled by no reciprocal predispositions in the members [of Congress]." In other words, the States will not want to intrude into federal authority because the Federal government will not intrude in State territory. In this "constitutional ideal", Madison sees everyone respecting the authority of the other.

Madison also said, " But ambitious encroachments of the federal government, on the authority of the State governments, would not excite the opposition of a single State, or of a few States only. They would be signals of general alarm. Every government would espouse the common cause. A correspondence would be opened. Plans of resistance would be concerted. One spirit would animate and conduct the whole. The same combinations, in short, would result from an apprehension of the federal, as was produced by the dread of a foreign, yoke; and unless the projected innovations should be voluntarily renounced, the same appeal to a trial of force would be made in the one case as was made in the other."

Let's join the other fifteen states that have said no to the Real ID act of 2005 via statute. Please consider co-sponsoring HB 1783 and encourage leadership to move this bill or SB 354 through the State Government Committee and to the floor for a vote.