

Interested Party Testimony of J. Moyer, for Sub. HB 458
Ohio Senate Local Government and Elections Committee

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- 1.) **Request from committee to clarify that Sub. HB 458 DL/ID does not establish a national identification card**
- 2.) **Communist block country usage of national identification cards to vote**
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Chairwoman Gavarone, Committee Members:

My names is James Moyer, I come from Medina County and while I write as a member of the public, I am a data protection advocate and researcher of data security regarding ID cards, passports and biometric systems. The scope of my work is global, but largely focused on the United States and the European Union.

I have some concerns which I wanted to bring up to this committee today regarding this legislation.

- 1.) **Request from committee to clarify that Sub. HB 458 DL/ID does not establish a national identification card**

Sub. HB 458 proposes that non-citizens receive a DL/ID which indicates their non-citizenship. By default, this means that post-Sub. HB 458 cards for US citizens indicate their citizenship implicitly through its silence.

That change makes the Ohio driver's license/ID card conceptually similar to a European style national identity card model.

In order to prevent any unnecessary confusion on the intent of the legislature here, I would ask that the bill's language be amended to clarify that Ohio law does not create a national identification card and that the Ohio driver's license/state ID ***“does not carry the same purposes or obligations that are characteristic of national identification cards.”***

Fortunately this is an easy change to make. The American conservative movement has, since the early 20th century, championed principled opposition against national identity cards. Ohio has a long tradition of issuing non-photo licenses and ID cards for Christians who object to photographic ID/national ID cards. With the increasing conservatism and traditional religiosity of Ohioans, it is inevitable that the issuance of non-photo cards will expand in the future. The inclusion of language declaring that ORC does not establish a national identity card future-proofs statute with the foregoing in mind. (Ideally, the bolded language above would be printed on the cards themselves.)

2.) Communist block country usage of national identification cards to vote

I wanted to draw the attention of the Committee to Communist East German era voter processing.

There is a video of an East German voter voting, [the link here will advance to the correct moment.](#)

In the video, you will see an East German be received at the polls. He will show his national ID card and be given a ballot.

He will make no marks on the ballot. The ballots are already pre-filled with the candidates of the National Front with no way of selecting/deselecting them. With the results of the election already decided, all the voter needs to do is fold the ballot and put it in the ballot box.

Referring to folding the ballot paper and dropping it in the box, in East German slang “to go folding” (“falten gehen”) meant to go voting.

The question arises, if the government had already decided what the elections results would be, why would they require ID to vote?

The answer is that requiring ID to vote was part of the theatre of this election system. East Germans knew it was theatrical that’s why people called it “going folding.”

This is one reason why America has such a long tradition of opposing national ID cards. The road to national ID cards being used against citizens starts with them being used as theatrical props.

3.) State’s inability to manufacture identity document

On a separate note, the legislation proposes to tie a basic right of American citizenship to an identity card which is not manufactured by an American company.

Because of rapid consolidation in the identity card manufacturing space, there are effectively only 3-5 companies globally which are capable of manufacturing these plastic documents.

All of these are based in Europe. Ohio uses a German vendor.

This committee should be aware that the state is unable to manufacture these documents, and so the supply cannot be guaranteed.

The only thing the state can manufacture is the so-called Ohio Interim Documentation, the piece of paper a citizen gets from the BMV while they wait for the plastic card to be produced.

The piece of paper is forgeable on a basic photocopier. But we have no choice, we must accept this document as full ID because the state is unable to manufacture the plastic one.

It is a necessary part of the theatre of identity cards.

4.) Support for payment of free cards through Department of Public Safety funds

Since summer I had been in communication with Chairwoman Gavarone's office regarding her legislation SB 320, which would require ID to vote.

At that time I explained that due to the 2017 the Experian data loss which lost half of all Americans driver's license/ID card numbers it is necessary to begin a reset of Ohio's driver's license numbers for security purposes. Since they have been lost there is no security value to these numbers and it makes little sense to rely on them for election security purposes without beginning to change them.

Committee members will note that there is a model for this, as a similar data loss in Australia ("Optus Data Breach") has caused a reset of driver's license numbers there.

It is in this context that I would like to note I enthusiastically support the decision of the legislation to have the BMV/Department of Public Safety pay for the free ID cards.

A WBNS 10TV report from July 2021 explained that the BMV made \$250 million in the last 12 years selling data from the driver's license database.

It is the BMV's selling of the data from the database to Experian which is how the driver's license numbers got lost in the first place, and why they now need to be reset.

The BMV launders the information from the ID cards for their own profit. They value the cards as worthless. This legislation confirms that by making the ID cards free and giving the BMV the bill.

Enormous effort is put into the security of these cards, and the BMV then turns around and sells the data off front of the cards. In this regard, this legislation ends that farce by lifting the curtain and showing Ohioans the reality of their ID cards.

What is only left now is to reset the driver's license numbers. I believe that this committee does not engage in theatrical farce and will understand that they have an obligation to the people of this state in regards to driver's license security and will amend the legislation to begin resetting the ID card numbers.

—J Moyer