



May 6, 2022

Dear Chair Nelson and Chair Kiffmeyer and Members of the Conference Committee,

As president and co-founder of the Citizens' Council for Health Freedom (CCHF), I am sharing our opposition to the proposed creation of a report on the feasibility of transitioning Minnesota to digital drivers' licenses (DDL). That proposal is within the MN House State Government, Transportation, and Veterans omnibus bill, HF 4293, lines 238.3 through 238.16.

As one senator told CCHF, **"You don't create a report for something that you don't want."** From our organization's perspective, any movement towards digital IDs should be opposed because it would significantly expand government power and threaten personal privacy, security, and autonomy.

CCHF advocates for patient privacy rights because **"he who holds the data makes the rules."** We want patients and doctors making those rules together and as privately as possible. Privacy rights protect personal control and individual freedom. Digital IDs could eliminate privacy rights and create a **"no card, no care"** tracking system, for example, no identification, no medication. The presentation of the ID would not only reveal the location of every interaction, it would also reveal the exact date and time.

Digital IDs will likely facilitate tracking of medical care through **online authentication** (pinging the DVS at every presentation of the identification credential) and through the phone's location devices (e.g., **CDC paid \$420,000 to use phone location data** during the Covid pandemic to monitor compliance with lockdown restrictions and more). This tracking will allow government to violate patient privacy rights, similar to how China monitors and tracks (and controls) its citizens using the cell phone.

A digital driver's license expands government power. Phone applications are designed to collect data, such as a person's location, search history, purchases, and much more. All of this could be accessed by the government through a digital ID. Imagine what contact tracing would have looked like during the COVID-19 pandemic with digital IDs in place.

In 2016, Iowa reported that one benefit of digital drivers' licenses was **the ability to suspend a person's license at any time**. Pennsylvania reported similar "benefits" including the ability to "wirelessly pull up a driver's identification without having to leave their patrol cars."

Digital ID systems, according to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA), can **require the DVS to be pinged each time a person uses their license**. For example, the state would be contacted when a person bought alcohol, went to the hospital, picked up prescriptions, purchased a gun, or boarded a plane. **An audit log is created**, according to state guidance written by the AAMVA. This process catalogs a person's behavior patterns, personal decisions, and actions.

Thus, we ask you to oppose Article 14, Section 16, lines 238.3 - 238.15 of the House bill, HF 4293.

Sincerely,

Twila Brase, RN, PHN
President and Co-founder

Please also review our attached 1-pager