



JERRY PETROWSKI

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

Senate Bill 488- Relating to Using a Tribal ID Card for Various Purposes

December 7, 2017

Good morning, members of the committee, and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today on Senate Bill 488, which allows the use of tribal identification cards for purchasing alcohol, cigarettes, picking up prescription medications, selling scrap and for other standard practices.

The Federal Government accepts a tribal identification card as an acceptable form of ID for passports and proof of identification for voting. Although these IDs are federally recognized, Wisconsin does not allow these forms of identification to be used for common purposes like purchasing alcohol or picking up a prescription.

Tribal ID's, similar to state issued licenses, validate an individual's identity by including the person's name, address, date of birth and picture on a card. Before being issued a tribal identification card, the individual must first prove they are a member of the tribe. This can include a lengthy process of DNA tests, birth certificate validation, adoption records, etc. through the tribe's enrollment office. After qualifying as a member of the tribe, the individual completes an in-person application form with their name, address, social security number, date of birth, hair color, eye color, height and weight. Finally, the individual pays the fee and has their photo taken.

There are a number of states with federally recognized tribes that already allow tribal ID's for the purpose of purchasing alcohol including, but not limited to, Idaho, Minnesota, Oklahoma, Oregon, and Washington. This bill would add Wisconsin to the list and allow tribal members use their IDs in the same way that many of us use our Wisconsin IDs every day.

Thank you again for the opportunity to speak on this bill. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

29TH SENATE DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL: P.O. BOX 7882 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53707-7882
SEN.PETROWSKI@LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV • TELEPHONE: (608) 266-2502 • FAX: (608) 282-3569



Jeff Mursau

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 36TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Senate Committee on Government Operations, Technology, and Consumer Protection

AB 576 – Use of Tribal Identification Cards

December 7, 2017

Chairman Strobel and Committee Members –

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of AB 576, relating to the use of tribal identification cards for specific state purposes. This bill was drafted as a result of meetings of the Joint Legislative Council's Study Committee on State-Tribal Relations. I serve as chair of this committee.

Similar to a driver's license, a tribal ID contains the individual's name, address, date of birth, and a picture. Currently, the Federal Government accepts a tribal identification card as an acceptable form of ID when applying for a passport. The Department of Homeland Security allows the use of a tribal ID at all TSA checkpoints and Customs and Border Protection Checkpoints. Further, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services recognizes a tribal ID as means to determine employment eligibility.

In Wisconsin there are several state laws that require a person to present identification for a variety of purposes. Those include proof of identification for the purpose of voting or proof of age when purchasing alcoholic beverages. Unfortunately, tribal members have found inconsistent recognition that tribal ID's may be considered an eligible form of identification. This is due to the fact that our state laws don't recognize a tribal ID as an "official identification card" for specific purposes.

This bill provides that an identification card issued by a federally recognized American Indian Tribe in this state can be used as a valid form of identification for the following purposes:

- Proof of residence for voter registration (current law already allows the use of a tribal ID as proof of identification for voting)
- Purchasing alcohol beverages
- Purchasing cigarettes, nicotine products, or tobacco products
- Confirming identity for picking up prescription medications
- Selling nonferrous scrap and other metal articles to scrap dealers
- Selling used home furnishings to an antique dealer or recycler
- Selling secondhand articles or secondhand jewelry to a pawnbroker, secondhand article dealer, or secondhand jewelry dealer

Once again, thank you for your consideration of AB 576. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.



Romaine Quinn

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 75th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

12/07/2017

Committee on Government Operations, Technology and Consumer Protection

Chairman Stroebel and members of the committee:

Thank you for holding a hearing on Senate Bill 502, which allows the governor to waive certain fees for license, approvals, or other authorizations in the wake of natural disaster that leads to a state of emergency being declared.

I'm sure that many of you saw the headlines from my district and many others last summer – severe storms caused significant damage across the state of Wisconsin. As crews scrambled to restore power, water, and communications, many Wisconsinites were also scrambling to replace documents that had been destroyed in the storms – documents such as driver's licenses. We often forget how crucial these basic documents are, but the storms were a reminder.

In an effort to ease this transition, the Barron County Division of Motor Vehicles opened a temporary service center for those affected by the storm, reissuing drivers' licenses, vehicle titles, and ID cards for free.

However, current state law does not allow any agency to waive a fee for these documents, regardless of the circumstances. This put the DMV out of compliance with state law. This bill is a humanitarian gesture to recognize that in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, Wisconsinites should not worry about combing through the debris to find their wallets before getting their drivers' licenses replaced. Once the governor has declared a state of emergency, he should also be able to give the relevant departments a waiver on charging fees.

It is important to note that this bill only applies to the reissue of permits and licenses – new documents will still have a fee attached.

Thank you, and I'm happy to answer any questions.



Oneida Nation
Oneida Business Committee
PO Box 365 • Oneida, WI 54155-0365
oneida-nsn.gov



To: Senator Ducey Stroebel, Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations,
Technology & Consumer Protection
From: Brandon Stevens, Oneida Nation Vice Chairman
Date: Thursday, December 7, 2017
Re: Supporting Testimony on Senate Bill 488: Tribal Identification Cards

Good morning Chairman Strobel and members of the Senate Committee. My name is Brandon Stevens representing the Oneida Nation as the elected Vice Chairman.

On behalf of the Oneida Nation I am testifying and urging support for Senate Bill 488, legislation that would recognize Native American tribal identification cards in specific areas of Wisconsin statute where official government identification is required.

As you all may be aware, there are eleven federally-recognized Native American Indian Tribes in Wisconsin. Like the federal, state and local governments – Tribes are a recognized government providing essential services to our citizens and identification cards are one of the services provided. Many tribal nations, issue tribal identification cards (IDs) to their citizens for a variety of purposes.

Senate Bill 488 simply expands that recognition of tribal identification to other areas in Wisconsin statute that require a government sponsored identification card. Wisconsin statutes often require a state or national form of identification for certain sales, purchasing, dispensing of prescriptions and voting in official elections.

Our reservation, like most tribes in the state, has several communities located within our boundaries. For us, that includes two counties, 5 municipalities and 6 school districts. This means there are numerous opportunities in our area where our citizens should be able to use their tribal ids to make transactions.

Current law already allows the use of a Native American tribal identification card as proof for voting purposes. Further, it should be noted that each of the tribal representatives here today hold a tribal-issued photo identification that are recognized by the federal government. That means right now, today, I am able to use my tribal identification card at Transportation Security Administration (TSA) airport and border checkpoints. In 2006, the Wisconsin Department of Motor Vehicles approved the Nation's Tribal Identification Card to the list of acceptable DMV documents. As our Tribal ID Cards are accepted more and more, the Nation takes the



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oneida-nsn.gov



opportunity to continuously enhance the security of our identification cards to maintain the integrity of the cards.

Starting January 2018, our ID cards will have a 10 year expiration date and more secure technology; such as ink and a hologram. As the evolving demands of the world are ever-changing, the Oneida Nation will continue to review and determine the necessary changes required to ensure our tribal identification cards have vital security features.

In closing, I want to thank you for your time and ask for your support of the passage of Senate Bill 488. I am happy to answer any questions if I am able.

A good mind. A good heart. A strong fire.