



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
FREDERICK P. KESSLER

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

12TH DISTRICT

September 23, 2016

Mark Gottlieb, Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 120B
P.O. Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

Dear Secretary Gottlieb:

I write to urge you not to implement several proposed changes brought to light by your Department's most recent 2017-19 biennial budget request. The proposed changes, marking free ID cards "Voting Purposes Only" and issuing free ID cards on card stock which further does not contain all of the security features included in a REAL-ID compliant ID card, are tantamount to treating fellow Wisconsinites as second-class citizens.

According to language used in your budget request, the proposed stamping of "Voting Purposes Only" on these free ID cards, "may discourage people from obtaining a free ID for purposes in addition to voting," ostensibly penalizes unfairly a subset of our fellow citizens solely based on revenue considerations. Furthermore, if one of the stated goals of requiring these free ID cards is to deter fraudulent voting, why make the cards with decreased security features in the first place.

I am by no means unsympathetic about your Department's revenue concerns with regards to providing these free ID cards and services, however, constitutional guarantees should respectfully outweigh your Agency's valid concerns. Wisconsin's citizens and voters should not have to procure a wholly separate valid ID so as to be able to do simple tasks of daily living. Why create this unnecessary impediment?

Thanks in advance for your anticipated attention and please feel free to contact my office if you need to speak to me in person about this issue.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK P. KESSLER

State Representative
12th Assembly District