



Legislation Summary:

(IDs for Homeless Persons) An Act to provide identification to youth and adults experiencing homelessness.

Bill numbers: H.3360/H.3388/S.2251

Sponsors: Rep. Kay Kahn, Rep. James J. O’Day, Sen. Robyn K. Kennedy

Summary: This bill requires the Registry of Motor Vehicles to establish a process to provide identification cards at no cost to persons who are homeless or unaccompanied homeless youth. Proof of residency could be provided by satisfactory documentation from government or NGO entities that provide housing or services to these persons. IDs are often necessary for job applications, enrolling in education or job-training, entering government buildings, opening financial accounts, voter registration or accessing a range of other services.

This bill is needed to expedite services for homeless individuals, particularly youth who have difficulty getting documents when they are at odds with family and adults experiencing domestic violence or displacement due to fire or other home destruction. A no fee process would eliminate barriers for vulnerable individuals.

League position. LWVMA supports these bills based on its national positions on Social Policy and Meeting Basic Human Needs. From [Impact on Issues 2022-2024](#): “Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and health and safety of all Americans.” (p118) Also “Privacy of participants should be protected. All administrative procedures should be conducted with respect for the rights and dignity of the individuals.” (p. 146)