

17-823

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission, and wishes to take this opportunity to inform of a future change related to United States domestic air travel. In January of 2018, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will begin its phased implementation of the REAL ID Act of 2005 in this context. For more information, missions may refer to the TSA website at https://www.tsa.gov/sites/default/files/resources/realid_factsheet.pdf.

The Act establishes standards for the production of acceptable U.S. state-issued forms of identification (ID), primarily driver's licenses, including for the purposes of boarding commercial aircraft operating within the United States. Chiefs of Mission are informed that Department of State ID cards and driver's licenses issued by the Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) and the Office of the Chief of Protocol have been determined by the Department of Homeland Security to be acceptable forms of ID for the purpose of boarding a commercial aircraft within the United States. Missions with members who experience difficulties with acceptance of these credentials should immediately

notify OFM in Washington at the contact information below. For outside of the immediate Washington Metropolitan area, missions should notify the appropriate OFM Regional Office with responsibility for their duty location.

The Department requests that Chiefs of Mission ensure this information is thoroughly disseminated to all mission members at their Embassies and Consulates.

Missions may direct any questions regarding this matter to OFM's Office of Diplomatic Motor Vehicles either by electronic mail to OFMDMV@state.gov or by telephone at 202-895-3500.

Department of State,



Washington, May 30, 2017.