



Homeland
Security

JUN 17 2008

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Rogers:

Pursuant to Section 508 of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations Act (P.L. 110-161), the Department is notifying the Committees on Appropriations that allocations will be provided under the FY 2008 REAL ID Demonstration Grant Program on June 20, 2008. The enclosed table specifies the allocations under this program.

The FY 2008 REAL ID Demonstration Grant Program is designed to standardize driver licenses and to protect against fraud and identity theft. Grant funds will help State Driver License Issuance Authorities enhance the integrity of driver licenses and identification cards, issuance capabilities, as well as system security.

In FY 2006 \$40,000,000 was appropriated for REAL ID. Of this amount, approximately \$1,118,000 was set aside for management and administration costs, with an additional \$400,000 rescinded for payment to the U.S. Treasury. Pursuant to Section 538 of the FY 2006 DHS Appropriations Act (P.L. 109-90), funds were dedicated to support a REAL ID pilot project, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky was subsequently awarded \$3,000,000 in FY 2006. Additionally, a supplemental award of \$4,000,000 was provided to Kentucky from FY 2008 funds for continuation of the pilot project. The balance of the funds appropriated for REAL ID in FY 2006, totaling \$31,300,000, is available for grants to states and will be combined with FY 2008 appropriations. These funds have been held pending the Department's completion and Congress's approval of a REAL ID implementation plan.

In FY 2008, an additional \$50,000,000 was appropriated to support the REAL ID initiative. Of this amount, approximately \$1,425,000 was set aside for management and administration costs, leaving a balance of \$48,575,000.

To expedite the grant allocation process, the remaining FY 2006 and FY 2008 REAL ID appropriations have been consolidated into one grant program. As such, from these remaining funds, REAL ID grant award allocations will be made to 48 jurisdictions. These allocations amount to \$79,875,000.

An identical letter has been sent to the Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Homeland Security Appropriations, as well as to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Subcommittee on Homeland Security Appropriations. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 447-3400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. C. Duke', written in a cursive style.

Elaine C. Duke
Acting Under Secretary for Management

Enclosure