

From:

To:

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Subject:

AAMVA was briefed by the National Governor's Association staff this afternoon regarding the governor's discussion of REAL ID at their Winter Meeting which ended yesterday. NGA reported that many governors stated they were unaware of their motor vehicle agencies' status on REAL ID implementation as well as the verification hub proposal which AAMVA is coordinating. Several mentioned that they will be contacting their motor vehicle agency administrator to discuss REAL ID when they return.

The governors directed NGA staff to inform the Department of Homeland Security that the \$79.4 million currently available from DHS should be for individual state grants to implement REAL ID and not for the verification systems hub and states' connection to it. NGA will seek an extension for grant applications which are currently due March 7 in order to give states time to develop and submit proposals. Accordingly, governors have requested that AAMVA not submit the hub verification proposal with North Carolina, where the bulk of the money was scheduled to go to the states. Furthermore, the governors have informed Congressional leaders that NGA and NCSL will request that Congress appropriate \$4 billion over 10 years to implement REAL ID, and will seek a substantial chunk of that figure for FY 2009 formula grants to the states.

Best regards,

Neil

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