

Testimony – IDEMIA
Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Transportation Committee
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John Corson, IDEMIA Public Security
Civil Identity

- **Introduction**

- Thank you for inviting me to testify today on this important topic.
- **IDEMIA is on a mission to unlock the world and make it safer.** Backed by cutting-edge R&D, IDEMIA provides unique technologies, underpinned by long-standing expertise in biometrics, cryptography, data analytics, systems, and smart devices that secure billions of interactions around the world.
- **With 15,000 employees, IDEMIA is trusted by over 600 governmental organizations and more than 2,300 enterprises spread over 180 countries, with an impactful, ethical, and socially responsible approach. And IDEMIA employs 353 people in the State of Pennsylvania with an annual payroll of \$26M in 2023 as well as operate two factories in Pennsylvania, one supporting IDEMIA's civil identity business in Harrisburg and a high-tech factory facility in Exton.**
- For more than 60 years, IDEMIA has been a trusted partner of government agencies - offering unmatched expertise in identity management.
- **We have produced over 1 billion drivers licenses in the US, and currently produce driver's licenses for 34 states presenting over 70% of the market, and mobile driver's licenses for six states.**
- Additionally, the **Transportation Security Administration relies on our Credential Authentication Technology (CAT) to authenticate and verify the identity of millions of travelers every day.**
- IDEMIA is proud to have begun our partnership with the State of Pennsylvania in 1999 under a previous iteration of the company, Polaroid.
- We proudly partner with **Unique Source**, formerly the Pennsylvania Institute for the Blind and Handicapped, who support the credential work in the state.

- **Digital Identity Solutions Provide Consumers with Unlimited Benefits**

- **Digital IDs are already here**, and their issuance and adoption will only increase in the future.
- **Drivers Licenses, passports, and other credentials are now accessible on our mobile devices, much like credit cards are today.**
- This innovation fundamentally changes the identity security market, **simultaneously enhancing security and improving the customer experience** -- providing consumers with ultimate control over their identity.
- **Digital IDs are derived from a physical credential, and the fidelity of information is tied to how robust the initial proofing process for the physical credential was.**
- For example, a customer with a REAL ID compliant physical credentials has proven both their identity and their legal presence in the US.
- A Digital ID derived from a REAL ID compliant physical credential provides the consumer with a digital document that enables them to verify both their identity and their legal presence in the United States.

- Unlike a physical ID which can be lost, used by an imposter, or presented even if it has been a revoked, a digital ID can only be unlocked and used by the individual to whom it was issued, and if the issuer allows it to be accessed, significantly reducing opportunities for fraud, and ensuring only *you* can authorize the use and validation of your identity information.
 - The use cases for this innovative technology are endless and provide significant consumer benefits – making it easier for disaster victims to file claims, preventing fraudulent transactions, enabling customers with accessibility challenges to enroll for important services from wherever they are, faster provisioning of public aid and services to citizens, or creating a frictionless experience for travelers.
 - Consumer demand will force ID verification to be digital/remote where it is physical/in-person today.
 - As Governor Shapiro's Executive Order illustrates, building a comprehensive, user-friendly online service for all Pennsylvanians is a top priority for the State - to transform how citizens interact with government. An mID is a gateway to broader digital transformation and can help drive adoption for many of the digital services likely being considered as well as make the transactions more secure and convenient.
- ***Digital Identity Solutions are safe, secure, enhance privacy, and meet robust national and international standards.***
 - Like many tools and technological innovations, **our technology is safe because we and our customers adhere to the highest ethical, privacy and accuracy standards.**
 - We demonstrate our leadership and commitment by regularly taking part in tests by the National Institute for Standards & Technology (NIST) to **check how our technology performs and assess its accuracy to ensure it is safe, secure, and effective.**
 - The test results confirm IDEMIA's long-standing expertise and demonstrate how advanced our technology is. **This 3rd party validation gives us and our customers confidence that they are using proven technology that has been tested to ensure both accuracy and fairness.**
 - However, **we as a company also have a role to play in determining who we sell our technology to** and how our technology is used.
 - **Any tool in the wrong hands, can cause harm, and we are very selective to ensure that our customers are using our technology in a way that aligns with our values and mission to unlock the world and make it safer and easier for people** to navigate the physical and digital worlds in total security.
 - For society to unlock all this potential, we need to ensure that we create a legal and regulatory framework that ensures responsible use, while also enabling and supporting continuous innovation and societal benefits.
 - As with any emerging technology, the temptation is always there to try and differentiate from others. I would caution the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from this approach as it has the potential to slow development and implementation and would create a solution not based in the ISO standards so carefully developed, led by the American Association of Motor Vehicles Administrators. A PA-specific solution could create issues for using the mID at the TSA Checkpoint, the main use case driving adoption of the technology, and could hinder the interoperability of Pennsylvania mIDs with those issued by other states.

Closing

- Thank you for inviting IDEMIA to engage in this important discussion today. We look forward to your questions and appreciate an open dialogue to discuss digital identity solutions and the important benefits they provide to society.