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## **Representative Smola Announces Streamlined Driver's License Renewal Process**

**BOSTON – Representative Todd M. Smola (R-Warren, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means)**, is pleased to announce the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is taking steps to allow more customers the opportunity to renew a driver's license or ID card online. The RMV has extended the length of time a customer can use a license photo from 9 years to 14 years which means more customers than ever are eligible for online renewals.

In addition, customers will be eligible to renew their licenses or ID cards online for two consecutive renewal periods. This will result in approximately 30,000 additional renewal transactions eligible to be processed online each month. With thousands of additional customers now eligible to conduct renewals online, the amount of customers who must visit a service center will decrease, which will make in-person transactions more efficient for customers who do need to visit RMV service locations.

"I'm very pleased that the RMV is making these upgrades," said Representative Smola. "Expanding online renewal for driver's licenses is a great example of using technology to improve efficiency."

Licenses and ID cards will need to be renewed in person at RMV service centers or AAA locations (for AAA members) every third renewal period (once every 15 years). Customers should also know that they don't need to wait for the RMV's birthday card reminder to renew. They can go online and renew up to 12 months in advance. To be eligible for online renewal, a customer's license/ID card photo must be less than 14 years old and must have been taken after the customer's 21st birthday.

The RMV invites license and/or ID card holders to visit [www.mass.gov/how-to/renew-your-drivers-license](http://www.mass.gov/how-to/renew-your-drivers-license) to check their license status and renew online.

Effective March 26, 2018, the RMV is changing the way customers get and renew their driver's licenses and ID cards. On that date, the RMV will begin to issue driver's licenses and ID cards which meet the federal requirement for credentials which are REAL ID compliant.

Massachusetts residents do not need a REAL ID until after October 2020, and will only need a REAL ID for air travel or to enter a U.S. government building. On October 1, 2020, the following credentials will be accepted where REAL ID is required: a valid U.S or foreign passport, U.S. passport card, military ID, or a driver's license or ID that is REAL ID compliant.

Additional information about REAL ID can be found at: [www.mass.gov/realID](http://www.mass.gov/realID).

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