



## IMMIGRANT JUSTICE/DRIVERS' LICENSES

### PREPARING TO TALK TO/WRITE TO YOUR LEGISLATORS

In thinking through what you want to share with your legislators, try to include these 4 parts:

- 1. Why this issue is important for our state.** Pick 2-4 facts or statistics that help explain the issue and why we must take action.
  - Allowing all New Jerseyans who can prove their identity and in-state residence to be trained, licensed, and insured would make the state safer, help the state's economy, and increase the wellbeing of families.
  - Welcoming diversity is a hallmark of our state; enabling access to drivers' licenses supports this value and helps all immigrants to contribute and integrate in their communities. *This is an opportunity for our legislators to lead in fighting anti-immigrant hate speech.*
  - Testing for the license improves driving competence and safety, and licensing fees would boost state economy. *While opponents claim cost to the state, both the MVC and insurance industry will see a revenue boost.*
  - Workers would have better access to jobs if they can drive to work, and parents can get their children to doctor appointments.
  - Other New Jerseyans who are unable to obtain required 6-point documentation would benefit, such as those who have fled domestic abuse, have lost documents in fires or moves, or are transgender.
  - As NJ will be moving to a 9-point ID requirement in 2019, this bill offers all a simpler, less intrusive option for renewal (*though it will not be useable for flights, other federal ID uses; can use passports*)

2. **Why this issue is important to you as a Reform Jew.** Pick one or two Jewish values and connect them to the issue you are addressing.

Our faith demands of us concern for the stranger in our midst.

“When strangers sojourn with you in your land, you shall not do them wrong. The strangers who sojourn with you shall be to you as the natives among you, and you shall love them as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Leviticus 19:33-34). This principle permeates Jewish tradition and is echoed 35 times in the Torah.

3. **Why this issue is important to you as an individual.** If possible, share a personal story that demonstrates your connection/passion for the issue.
4. **What you want the legislator to do (“The Ask”).** Ask the legislator to vote for/against/cosponsor a piece of legislation (make sure to include the bill number). It is helpful to know legislator’s past positions/role in this bill, which you can explore in [njleg.gov](http://njleg.gov).

**OUR LEGISLATIVE ASK FOR TODAY:**

Support NJ Safe and Responsible Driver Act (**A4743/S3229**), allowing drivers’ licenses for undocumented residents. Vote yes, cosponsor.

Take a deep breath and enjoy connecting and making your voice heard!