



JOE SANFELIPPO

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 15th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(608) 266-0620
FAX: (608) 282-3615
Toll-Free: (888) 534-0015
Rep.Sanfelippo@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

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Contact:
Rep. Sanfelippo
608-266-0620
Rep.Sanfelippo@legis.wi.gov

Top 5 false claims made by local ID supporters

MADISON, Wis. – Voces de la Frontera apparently can't handle the truth.

The Milwaukee-based advocacy group has spent the past several weeks spreading misinformation to try to derail a [bill](#) authored by Sen. Van Wanggaard, R-Racine, and Rep. Joe Sanfelippo, R-New Berlin, that regulates the production and use of local photo identification cards.

But there is only one problem: facts are getting in the way. Listed below are the top five false claims made by Voces de la Frontera on the legislation, which passed both the state Assembly and Senate this week, followed by the verifiable truth.

CLAIM: [Senate Bill 533](#) prevents the city and county of Milwaukee from issuing local ID cards to their residents.

FACT: The legislation does not prohibit [cities or villages](#) from creating and distributing municipal IDs. All the bill does is lay out the ground rules for issuance and use. The cards have to clearly state they cannot be used for voting.

CLAIM: This bill is an escalated attack on local control.

FACT: Local control does not apply here because counties and towns are extensions of state government. Unlike cities and villages, counties and towns do not have [home rule authority](#). Again, cities and villages can still issue local IDs.

CLAIM: Cardholders will be able to use the municipal IDs for such things as gaining employment, opening a bank account and acquiring a library card.

FACT: A local ID would only satisfy [one documentation requirement](#) for applying for a job. There is also [no guarantee](#) private institutions and libraries will accept municipal ID cards.

CLAIM: Local IDs are needed to purchase prescription medication.

FACT: Under Wisconsin law, presenting a photo ID is not required when picking up most prescriptions. IDs are only necessary for [Schedule II and III drugs](#), and municipal IDs are not an acceptable form of identification in those instances.

CLAIM: Municipal ID cards will help residents obtain basic services and make their lives easier.

FACT: Because local IDs do not accomplish the things Voces de la Frontera say they will, the cards will cause confusion and give false hope to many individuals.

“Voces de la Frontera blatantly spreading false information on municipal IDs doesn't come as a surprise since the group has a history of pulling stunts like this rather than actually helping people or telling them the facts,” Sanfelippo said. “It's sad that Voces and some elected officials find it acceptable to mislead these poor individuals and use them as pawns just to push their own political agenda.”

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