



Bill Number:	W-25-01	Sponsored By:	Chief of Staff Evan Jackson
Introduced On:	February 6th, 2025		
Voted On:	February 20th, 2025		
Result:	PASSED		
Vote Count:	32-0-0		

A BILL TO: Facilitate the digitization of student ID cards for enhanced accessibility and usability in campus operations.

Recognizing, that physical student ID cards are prone to damage, loss, and inconvenience, disrupting students’ ability to access essential services such as residence halls, dining, and recreational facilities; and

Whereas, digital student ID cards, accessible via smartphones and other devices, enable seamless and secure access to campus events, recreational facilities, meal swipes, and other university resources;¹ and

Recognizing, that implementing digital IDs aligns with Grand Valley State University’s commitment to innovation and improving student experiences through technology, as stated in the university’s Digital Transformation Strategy: “Our vision is to pioneer a grand future, empowering the campus community to engage with new opportunities facilitated by technology while establishing innovative models, modern services, and solutions;”^{2,3} and

Whereas, other institutions, including Central Michigan University, University of Notre Dame, New Mexico State University, and Northern Arizona State University, have successfully implemented digital ID systems at other colleges of similar size, improving accessibility, safety, and convenience for students and staff;^{4,5,6,7} and

1 <https://www.pymnts.com/digital-identity/2024/virtual-student-ids-enhance-connected-campus-experience-with-added-security-convenience/>

2 <https://www.gvsu.edu/reachhigher2025/values-32.htm>

3 <https://www.gvsu.edu/it/vp/digital-transformation-strategy-21.htm>

4 <https://www.cmich.edu/offices-departments/finance-administrative-services/auxiliary-services/centralcard/central-mobile-id/>

5 <https://ndworks.nd.edu/news/digital-irish1card-team-receives-presidential-team-irish-award/>

6 <https://idcard.nmsu.edu/mobile-id/>

7 <https://in.nau.edu/jackscard/get-your-jackscard/>

Recognizing, the transitioning to digital IDs can significantly reduce environmental waste associated with the production and disposal of physical ID cards, this initiative aligns with Grand Valley State University’s sustainability commitment, which emphasizes, “Integrity moves us to actively pursue and sustain quality educational experiences rooted in research and evidence, and to be excellent stewards of our communities, resources, and planet”;^{8,9}

Recognizing, that digital ID systems provide opportunities for further integration with future technologies, further modernizing university operations; and

Recognizing, digital IDs have been successfully used for meal plans, vending machines, event tickets, purchases, and secure building access, enhancing the experience and convenience for students and staff at other universities;¹⁰ and

Recognizing, using digital IDs in addition to physical IDs can reduce the costs associated with printing and replacing physical cards, creating long-term cost efficiency for the university; and

Whereas, the implementation of digital IDs allows students to retain access to essential services even in the case that a physical card is lost, furthering the safety and reliability for university members; and

Therefore, Let it Be Resolved, that Grand Valley State University explores the feasibility of creating and implementing a secure digital student ID system accessible via smartphones and other devices; and

Furthermore, Let it Be Resolved, that the University evaluates the costs and timeline for implementation, the infrastructure requirements for integration, necessary measures to ensure data privacy and security, and potential partnerships with technology providers.

⁸ <https://www.forwardpathway.us/the-rise-of-digital-identity-systems-in-higher-education>

⁹ <https://www.gvsu.edu/strategicplan-view.htm?entityId=0001&entityType=university#mission>

¹⁰ <https://www.forwardpathway.us/the-rise-of-digital-identity-systems-in-higher-education>