



Bolivia: Law on General Personal Identification Services and General Driver's License Services, June 27, 2011

LAW OF JUNE 27, 2011 EVO

MORALES AYMA

CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE PLURINATIONAL STATE OF
BOLIVIA

Whereas, the Plurinational Legislative Assembly has enacted the following Law:

THE PLURINATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

DECREES:

LAW ON THE GENERAL PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION SERVICE AND THE
GENERAL DRIVER'S LICENSE SERVICE

Title I

Chapter One General Provision

Article 1.- (Purpose) The purpose of this Law is to create the General Personal Identification Service and the General Driver's License Service, determining their legal nature, principles, powers, and organizational structure.

Chapter Two

General Personal Identification Service - SEGIP

Article 2.- (Creation and legal nature)

- I. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) is hereby created as a decentralized public institution with legal personality and its own assets, with administrative, financial, legal, technical, and operational capacity, under the supervision of the Ministry of Government, with jurisdiction and competence throughout the territory of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.
- II. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) is the only public entity authorized to issue identity cards (C.I.) within and outside the national territory, and to create, administer, control, maintain, and safeguard the Single Identification Registry (RUI) of natural persons for the purpose of

identification and exercise of their rights, within the framework of this Law and the Political Constitution of the State.

Article 3.- (Address)

- I. The legal domicile of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) shall be the city of La Paz, and it shall establish offices in all departments of the Plurinational State of Bolivia in order to fulfill its assigned functions.
- II. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) may, in coordination with diplomatic delegations, open offices outside the country.

Article 4.- (Principles of the entity) The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) shall be subject to the following principles in its actions:

- a) *Universality*. Access to the Identity Card (C.I.) is undeniable and equal for all Bolivians and foreigners residing in Bolivia.
- b) *Confidentiality*. The administration and control of information provided by Bolivian citizens and foreigners residing in Bolivia shall be strictly respected and safeguarded.
- c) *Uniqueness*. The Identity Card (C.I.) is non-transferable and unique to each Bolivian citizen.
- d) *Security*. The inviolability of the identity of Bolivians is guaranteed through appropriate, timely, and reliable mechanisms.
- e) *Warmth*. Provide personalized, cordial, respectful, and friendly service to the population.
- f) *Speed*. Timely provision of the service offered.
- g) *Efficiency*. Services must be provided within the framework of optimizing available resources.
- h) *Transparency*. Public resources are managed according to criteria of transparency and austerity.
- i) *Mandatory*. Responsibility to document Bolivians inside and outside the country.
- j) *Respect for dignity*. Through which all persons shall be treated without discrimination, with respect for human dignity and cultural identity.

Article 5.- (Powers) The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) has the following powers:

- a) Establishing procedures for the handling, administration, and registration of identification data corresponding to Bolivians and foreigners residing in Bolivia.
- b) Establish, in coordination with the Civil Registry Service (SERECI), a

biometric registration system for natural persons that guarantees the reliability and authenticity of the data recorded on a permanent basis.

- c) Regulate the use, updating, administration, and storage of the Single Identification Registry (RUI).
- d) Implement mechanisms and/or procedures that guarantee the privacy, confidentiality, and security of the registered data.
- e) Register the information necessary to issue identity cards (C.I.) to Bolivians and naturalized foreigners, in compliance with international technical parameters.
- f) Register the information necessary to issue the Foreign Identity Card (CIE) to foreigners with legal residence in Bolivia, in coordination with the General Directorate of Migration, in compliance with international technical parameters.
- g) Rectify, change, or supplement the data entered in the Single Identification Registry (RUI).
- h) Promote, manage, and sign agreements with institutions and entities for the fulfillment of its duties.
- i) Maintain and administer the Single Identification Registry (RUI) in accordance with current technological standards.
- j) Develop mechanisms for the registration of persons' addresses throughout the territory of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.
- k) Others established by Supreme Regulatory Decree.

Article 6.- (Organizational structure) The organizational structure of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) comprises the following levels:

- 1. Board of Directors
- 2. Executive Level
- 3. Technical-Operational Level

Article 7.- (Board of Directors) The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) shall have a Board of Directors composed of the Minister of Government, the Minister of Justice, and the President of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

Article 8.- (Powers of the Board of Directors)

- I. The powers of the Board of Directors of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) are as follows:
 - 1. To design and approve institutional policies and guidelines aimed at guaranteeing the right to identification of Bolivian citizens and foreigners residing in Bolivia.
 - 2. To approve the structure, manual of functions, and technical requirements

- in accordance with current regulations.
- 3. Evaluate the implementation and compliance with institutional policies and guidelines.
- 4. Request reports from the Executive Directorate of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) regarding the fulfillment of the objectives and goals set.
- 5. Authorize and regulate the use of Biometric Records by other public and private institutions.
- II. The Board shall be chaired by the Minister of Government, who shall convene meetings periodically.

Article 9.- (Executive Level)

- I. The Executive Director is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP).
- II. The Director General of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) shall serve for a term of six years and may not be reappointed until a new term has elapsed.
- III. The Director or Executive Director General shall be appointed by the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, by Supreme Resolution from a shortlist of three candidates proposed by the Chamber of Deputies and approved by an absolute majority.

Article 10.- (Powers of the Director or Chief Executive Officer) The powers of the Director or Chief Executive Officer of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) are as follows:

- a) To act as the legal representative of the institution.
- b) To direct, coordinate, and supervise technical and operational activities.
- c) Performing and authorizing the administrative acts necessary for the functioning of the institution.
- d) Sign contracts, agreements, and accords for the execution of plans, programs, and projects.
- e) To designate and appoint the institution's staff in accordance with legal provisions.
- f) Implement mechanisms for the development, use, and exploitation of information and communication technologies.
- g) Issue administrative general and specific for the fulfillment of institutional objectives.
- h) Approve the institution's budget and any modifications thereto.
- i) Approve the Institutional Strategic Plan, Annual Operating Plan, regulations, and internal manuals.

- j) Approve the opening of offices throughout the territory of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.
- k) Coordinate the provision of identification services outside the country with the Ministry of Government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- l) Approve the institution's budget execution and annual report.
- m) Submit a report to the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, through the Minister of Government, on the actions implemented and their results, without prejudice to compliance with fiscal control regulations.
- n) Other activities related to the fulfillment of the institution's powers.

Article 11.- (Financing)

- I. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) may access the following sources of financing for its operation:
 - a) Specific public resources derived from the exercise of its activities.
 - b) The National Treasury, according to financial availability.
 - c) Donations and/or credits from national and international organizations.
- II. The resources indicated in subsection a) of the previous paragraph shall be transferred to a passbook in the Single Treasury Account, through fiscal current accounts of a revenue-collecting nature.
- III. The income that the Bolivian Police will no longer receive due to the transfer of services provided for the issuance of identity cards to the General Personal Identification Service - SEGIP, shall be covered by the resources indicated in the preceding paragraph, considering the average of the last three fiscal years presented by the National Directorate of Personal Identification, after audit and bank reconciliation with the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. Any surpluses shall be transferred to the General Treasury of the Nation.

Article 12.- (Single Identification Registry)

- I. The Single Identification Registry (RUI) is the set of identification data recorded through the Single Identification Registry System (SRUI).
- II. The identification data contained in the Single Identification Registry (RUI) shall be established by Supreme Decree.

Article 13.- (Single Identification Registration System) The Single Identification Registration System (SRUI) is a Personal Identification System of the Plurinational State of Bolivia that records, stores, processes, updates, and protects the data of Bolivian citizens and foreigners residing in Bolivia, under criteria and parameters established by the General Identification Service

Service (SEGIP).

Article 14.- (Validation and verification of identification)

- I. Public entities and others that issue official documents shall, if required, validate the identification of natural persons with the information from the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP).
- II. Natural persons may request verification of their data, and public and private institutions, upon justification of legal interest, may request verification of the identification of natural persons from the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP).
- III. In order to comply with the provisions of the preceding paragraphs, the corresponding regulations shall be issued by means of an Administrative Resolution.

Article 15.- (Updating of information in the Single Identification Registry System - SRUI) For the purposes of updating the SRUI, the competent public entities, in accordance with their powers, shall periodically inform the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) of cases of temporary and permanent residence and naturalization of foreign nationals.

Article 16.- (Prohibitions) Public servants of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) are prohibited from modifying, deleting, or disseminating, outside the scope of the law, data corresponding to the identification of individuals, under executive, administrative, civil, and criminal liability, as applicable.

Chapter Three Identity Card

Article 17.- (Identity Card)

- I. The Identity Card (C. I.) is a public, individual, unique, and non-transferable document that certifies the identification of Bolivian citizens, distinguishing them from other residents and inhabitants of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, and is enforceable and valid within the territorial jurisdiction. It shall also be valid in other states with which the Plurinational State of Bolivia has reciprocal agreements in force.
- II. The Identity Card (C.I.) shall contain data that uniquely identifies each Bolivian citizen, in accordance with legal regulations and international technical parameters, while respecting the privacy of individuals.
- III. The Identity Card (C.I.) is a document that, upon presentation, is sufficient for the purposes indicated by law.
- IV. The identification data contained in the Identity Card (C.I.) will be

regulated by Supreme Decree.

Article 18.- (Issuance of the identity card)

- I. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) is the only entity of the Plurinational State authorized to issue identity cards (C.I.) to:
 - a) All Bolivians by birth, based on verification of the database of the Civil Registry Service (SRECI) and the birth certificate.
 - b) All Bolivians by naturalization, upon presentation of a document issued by the General Directorate of Migration.
- II. The identity card number assigned prior to this Law will be maintained, except in cases where irregularities are detected.
- III. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) will also issue identity cards (C.I.) for renewal, updating, or replacement due to loss.
- IV. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) is the only entity of the Plurinational State of Bolivia authorized to issue Foreign Identity Cards (CIE) to foreign nationals residing in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, upon presentation of documentation issued by the competent entity.
- V. The components relating to the modality, procedures, types, and requirements for the issuance of Identity Cards (C.I.) and Foreign Identity Cards (CIE) shall be regulated by Regulatory Decree.

Article 19.- (Mandatory)

- I. The Identity Card (C.I.) is a public document that must be obtained and renewed.
- II. Persons naturalized as Bolivian citizens in accordance with the provisions of the Political Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia must obtain an Identity Card (C.I.).
- III. The Identity Card (C.I.) shall be granted indefinitely to Bolivians aged fifty-eight (58) and over and to persons with severe and very severe disabilities as defined in the regulations.

Article 20.- (Security measures) The security measures, method of issuance, structure, and period of validity of the Identity Card (C.I.) shall be established by Supreme Regulatory Decree.

Title II

Chapter One **General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC)**

Article 21.- (Creation and legal nature)

- I. The General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) is hereby created as a decentralized public institution without a board of directors, with administrative, financial, legal, technical, and operational management capacity, with legal personality and its own assets, under the supervision of the Ministry of Public Works, Services, and Housing.
- II. The General Driver's License Service - SEGELIC is the entity responsible for granting, registering, renewing, and revoking licenses to drive land vehicles throughout the territory of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, in addition to international licenses.
- III. The headquarters of the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) is located in the city of La Paz, with offices established in all departments of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Article 22.- (Powers) The General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) has the following powers:

- a) To issue, register, and renew licenses to drive land vehicles.
- b) Comply with provisions issued by the competent authority related to the temporary or permanent suspension of licenses to drive land vehicles.
- c) Grant provisional authorizations.
- d) Grant official permits to representatives of foreign missions performing special duties in the country.
- e) Granting international driving permits.
- f) Establish mechanisms and procedures for categorizing licenses.
- g) Authorize, accredit, and regulate the operation of institutions dedicated to teaching vehicle driving.
- h) Others established by Supreme Regulatory Decree.

Article 23.- (Highest executive authority) The General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) is headed by an Executive Director, who acts as the legal representative of the institution and is appointed by Supreme Resolution.

Article 24.- (Structure, organization, and functions) The structure, organization, and functions of the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) shall be established by Supreme Decree.

Article 25.- (Financing)

- I. The General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) may access the following sources of financing:
 - a) Specific public resources derived from the exercise of its activities.
 - b) The National Treasury, according to financial availability.
 - c) Donations and/or credits from national and international organizations.
- II. The resources indicated in subsection a) of the previous paragraph shall be transferred to a passbook in the Single Treasury Account, through fiscal current accounts of a revenue-collecting nature.
- III. The income that the Bolivian Police will no longer receive due to the transfer of services related to the granting of driver's licenses to the General Driver's License Service - SEGELIC, shall be covered by the resources indicated in the preceding paragraph, considering the average of the last three fiscal years presented by the Traffic Operations Unit (Driver's License Unit), after audit and bank reconciliation with the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance. Any surpluses shall be transferred to the General Treasury of the Nation.

Article 26.- (Public driving school) The Public School for Land Vehicle Drivers is hereby created throughout the territory of the Plurinational State as a unit of the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC), whose functions, powers, and other matters shall be established by Supreme Decree.

Title III Additional provisions

Additional Article 1.- The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) shall identify and inform the interested party of any errors in the data recorded by the National Personal Identification Directorate and shall proceed to correct them free of charge by means of an express Administrative Resolution.

Additional Article 2.- The Police Mutual Insurance Company (MUSEPOL) shall continue to administer and pay the corresponding allowances and obligations.

Transitional provisions

Transitional Article 1.

Transitional provisions

- I. As of the publication of this Law, the National Directorate of Personal Identification, the Driving School, and the departments responsible for driver's licenses, which are under the Bolivian Police, are hereby abolished.
- II. Administrative and judicial proceedings brought against or initiated by the institutions responsible for issuing identity cards and driver's licenses that are pending shall be taken over by the Bolivian Police.
- III. The Bolivian Police shall transfer, free of charge, all tangible and intangible assets, supplies, and materials used for the issuance of identity cards (C.I.) from the National Directorate of Personal Identification and Driver's Licenses to SEGIP and SEGELIC, respectively.
- IV. The procedures for issuing identity cards and driver's licenses initiated before the National Directorate of Personal Identification and the Traffic Enforcement Agency shall be assumed by the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and SEGELIC.

Transitional Article 2.- The Bolivian Police shall, as of the effective date of this Law:

- a) Relocate police and civilian personnel from the National Directorate of Personal Identification and Driver's Licenses to public safety functions, respecting their rank and seniority.
- b) Cooperate with the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and SEGELIC to ensure the continuity of the services provided.

Transitional Article 3.- Once this regulation enters into force for the commencement of activities of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC), the following shall be complied with:

1. The Bolivian Police, through the National Directorate of Personal Identification, the National Directorate of Revenue and Taxation, and the Driver's License Unit, shall proceed to deliver the files, fiscal values, information, and documentation related to the issuance of identity cards and driver's licenses to the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP). Subsequently, the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) shall, within a maximum period of eight (8) months, definitively transfer all this documentation and information to the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC).
2. Until the organizational process of the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) is consolidated, the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) will administer and manage the driver's license issuance service.

3. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) will temporarily provide their services at the Bolivian Police facilities until other infrastructure is available.
4. The General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC) may enter into loan agreements with those autonomous territorial entities and others that have provided facilities for the provision of these services to the Bolivian Police.

Transitional Article 4.-

- I. As of the effective date of this Law, the Ministry of Government shall transfer, free of charge, the "Free Identity Card Program for all Bolivians" to the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP), with all its tangible and intangible assets, liabilities, and personnel, following an evaluation.
- II. At the request of the Ministry of Government, the Ministry of Economy and Public Finance shall transfer the budgetary balances of the General Treasury of the Nation (TGN) from the "Free Identity Card Program for all Bolivians" to the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP).

Transitional Article 5.- Within the framework of the [Political Constitution of the State](#) and the Law, the Plurinational Electoral Body, through the Civic Registry Service (SERECI), shall cooperate and coordinate with the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) in the verification of data from the Civic Registry Service and the Biometric Register.

Final provisions

Final Article 1.- Bolivian Police officers shall be subject to executive, administrative, civil, and criminal liability in accordance with current legal regulations in the event of obstructing, concealing, impeding, removing, damaging, altering, or destroying files, fiscal values, information, and documentation related to the issuance of identity cards and driver's licenses.

Final Article 2.- The General Treasury of the Nation shall, on an extraordinary basis, allocate resources according to its financial availability for the start-up and equipping of the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC).

Final Article 3.- Authorize the Electoral Body of the Plurinational State to deliver, on a loan basis, to the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) and the General Driver's License Service (SEGELIC), the biometric registration computer equipment that is not being used by the aforementioned Body for a period of eight (8) years, and therefore does not affect the technical

administrative and registration operations of the aforementioned body.

Repeal and abrogation provisions

Sole Article.- Subsections n) and o) of Article 7, Article 27, and subsections h) and g) of Article 117 of [Law No. 734](#) of April 8, 1985, [Organic Law of the National Police](#), and Articles 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, and 119 of [the Traffic Code](#), and subsection e) of Article 25 of [Supreme Decree No. 24423](#).

All provisions contrary to this Law are hereby repealed and abrogated.

Forward to the Executive Branch for constitutional purposes.

Given in the Session Hall of the Plurinational Legislative Assembly, on the tenth day of June of the year two thousand eleven.

Signed: René Oscar Martínez Callahuanca, Héctor Enrique Arce Zaconeta, Zonia Guardia Melgar, Jeanine Añez Chávez, Esteban Ramírez Torrico, Ángel David Cortés Villegas.

Therefore, I hereby enact it to be held and enforced as Law of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Government Palace of the city of La Paz, on the twenty-seventh day of June two thousand eleven.

Signed: EVO MORALES AYMA, David Choquehuanca Céspedes, Carlos Romero Bonifaz, Sacha Sergio Llorentty Solíz, Ana Teresa Morales Olivera, Walter Juvenal Delgadillo Terceros, Nilda Copa Condori.

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Links to other documents

See also

[BO-CPE-20090207] [*Bolivia: Political Constitution of the State of 2009, February 7, 2009*](#)

2009 Political Constitution of the State

[BO-L-N153] [*Bolivia: Law No. 153, July 14, 2011*](#)

Declares afforestation and reforestation for the conservation of Tunari National Park in the Department of Cochabamba a national priority.

References to this regulation

[BO-DS-N1446] [*Bolivia: Creates the Police Services Mutual Aid Association \(MUSERPOL\), DS No. 1446, December 20, 2012*](#)

CREATES THE POLICE MUTUAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (MUSERPOL), DETERMINES ITS LEGAL NATURE, PURPOSE, ACTIVITIES, AND SOURCES OF FUNDING

[BO-DS-N1800] [*Bolivia: Supreme Decree No. 1800, November 20, 2013*](#) Establishes the immigration regularization of foreigners who are in Bolivian territory in an irregular situation. To this end, the General Directorate of Immigration and the General Personal Identification Service (SEGIP) will apply the exemption from the payment of fines.

[BO-DS-N2359] [*Bolivia: Supreme Decree No. 2359, May 13, 2015*](#)

MAY 13, 2015.- Establishes, on a one-time basis, the free issuance of birth certificates and identity cards to persons deprived of liberty in prisons of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Repeals

[BO-COD-DL10135] [*Bolivia: Traffic Code, February 16, 1973*](#)

Traffic Code

[BO-DS-24423] [*Bolivia: Legal Migration Regime, DS No. 24423, November 29, 1996*](#)

The Bolivian State recognizes that migration is an important factor for the country. Immigration promotes population growth and should contribute to social and economic development through real investment and effective work, while also preventing the emigration of nationals.

Important note

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This document cannot be used as a legal reference in any way, as this role corresponds to the **Official Gazette of Bolivia**.

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