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A Unified National Identity System
A Key Solution to Combat Fraud
& Streamline Citizen Services

WHITE
PAPER

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INTRODUCTION

In recent years, much attention has been given to fraud, waste, and abuse in government programs. However, the core issue lies deeper: the fragmented approach to citizen identity management. Currently, every federal and state agency maintains its own version of who you are through agency-specific identity systems leadingto mismatched records, duplicated efforts, and systemic vulnerabilities.

The real barrier to modernizing citizen services isn't technology—it's what we call *Identity Chaos.*

A SOLUTION FROM ABROAD: THE CASE OF INDIA

India offers a successful example of how a unified identity system can transform government services called the Aadhaar system. The Aadhaar System provides every citizen with a single, secure digital identity. This streamlined the country's approach to government services, from banking to healthcare, resulting in improved service delivery, better data integrity, and a significant reduction in fraud.
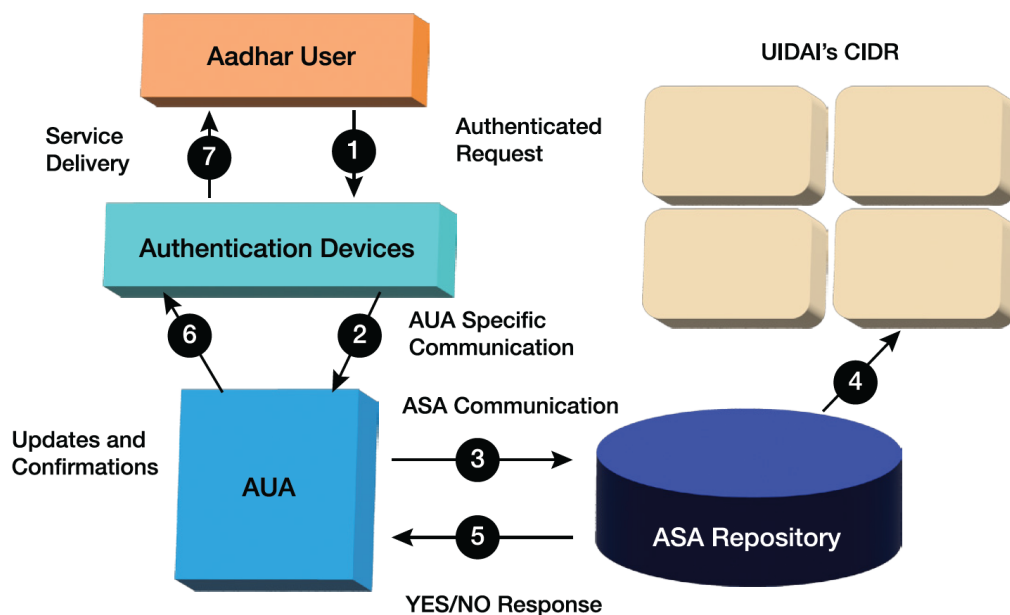
THE NEED FOR A UNIFIED SYSTEM IN THE US

In the United States, the lack of a unified citizen identity system has created inefficiencies and vulnerabilities. It is time to ask why the U.S. does not have a similar system in place, particularly given the significant benefits it could bring to both citizens and government agencies.
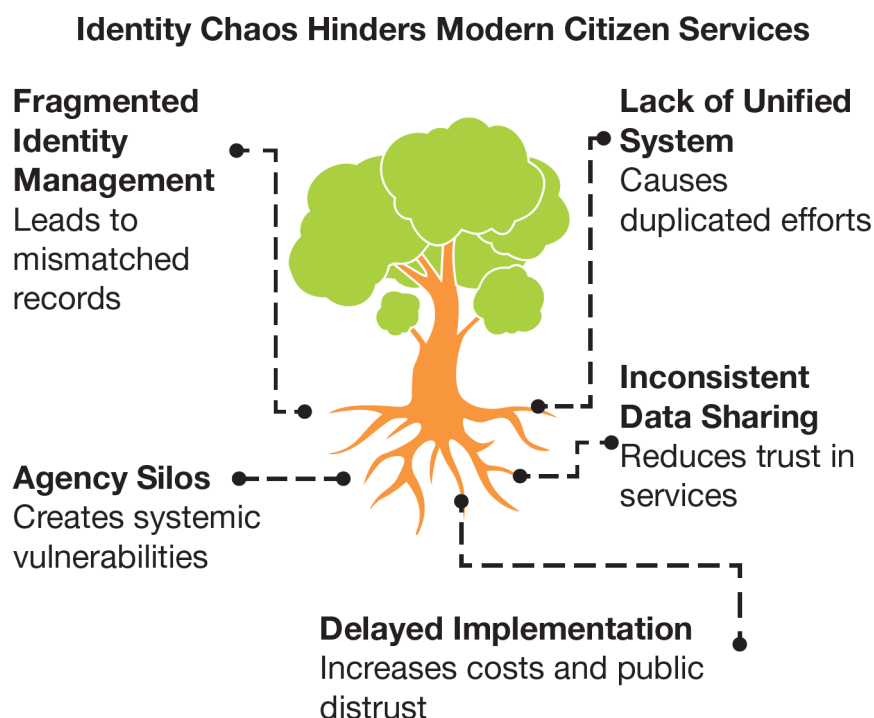
A Bold Proposal

A National Identity Management Platform to address this issue, the following steps are proposed:

Creation of a National Identity Platform

The General Services Administration (GSA) should manage a single national identity management platform. All federal agencies would be required to adopt this platform, which would support:

- Multiple credential services for secure acces to benefits
- Digital certificates on state-issued REAL ID-compliant driver's licenses
- A federated Certificate Authority (CA) to anchor trust across all agencies

Identity Chaos Hinders Modern Citizen Services

Fragmented Identity Management
Leads to mismatched records

Lack of Unified System
Causes duplicated efforts

Inconsistent Data Sharing
Reduces trust in services

Agency Silos
Creates systemic vulnerabilities

Delayed Implementation
Increases costs and public distrust

Synching State Records with the National Platform

States would be required to sync their identity records with the national platform, enabling validation, authentication, and verification without needing to reinvent the wheel. This would help reduce duplication and ensure more accurate data across all levels of government.
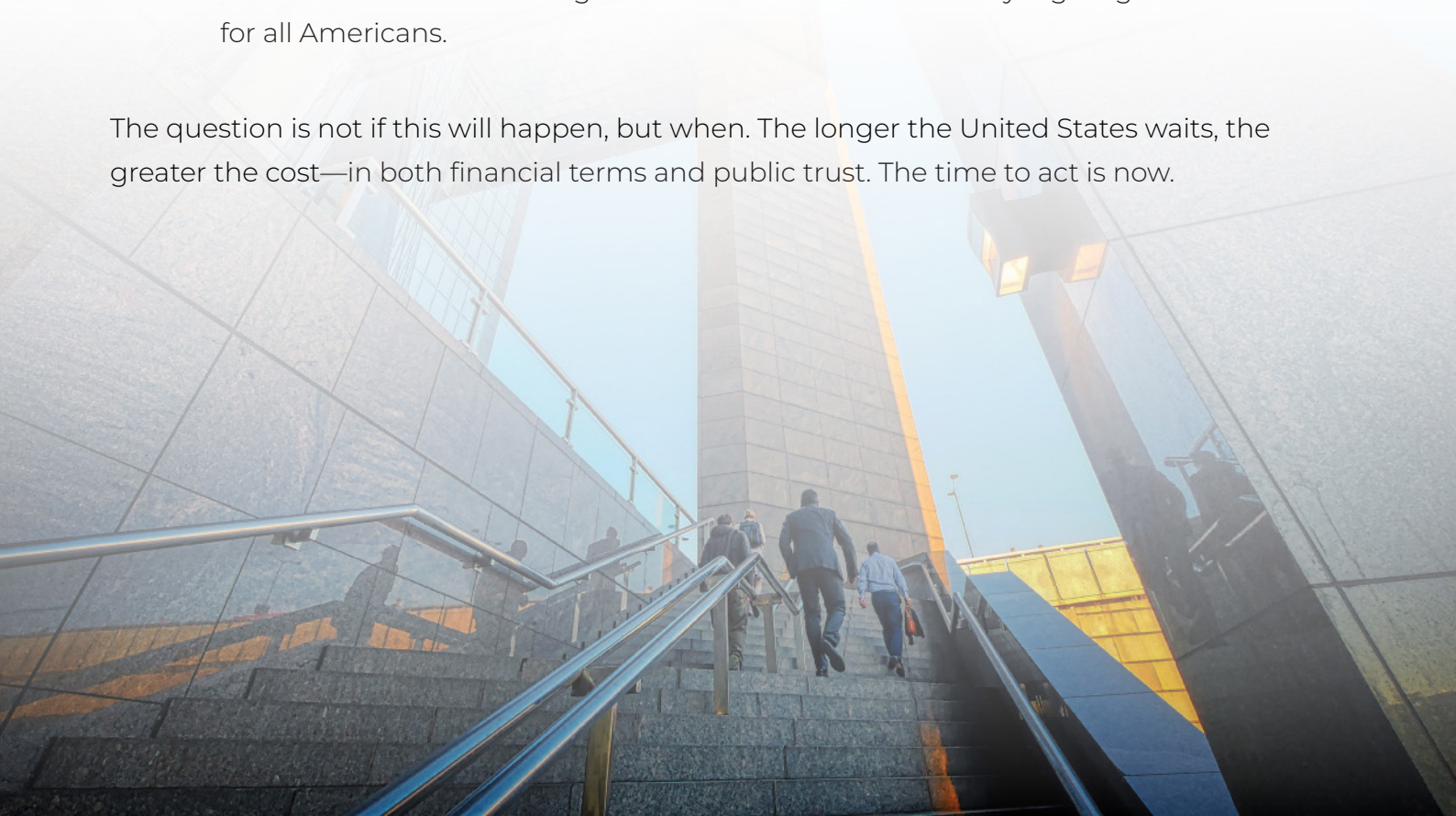
The Path Forward

- Reduce fraud across benefit programs.
- Promote a consistent citizen experience.
- Establish a trusted digital government for all Americans.
- It's not a matter of if—it's when. The longer we wait, the higher the cost—in dollars and in public trust.

The Benefits of a Unified System

By implementing a national identity management platform, the U.S. could achieve several key goals:

- **Reduction of Fraud:** A unified system would drastically reduce fraud across federal benefit programs by ensuring accurate and verifiable citizen identities.
- **Improved Citizen Experience:** A consistent and seamless experience for citizens interacting with government services would be promoted.
- **Trusted Digital Government:** A unified identity system would serve as a cornerstone for establishing a more reliable and trustworthy digital government for all Americans.

The question is not if this will happen, but when. The longer the United States waits, the greater the cost—in both financial terms and public trust. The time to act is now.

THANK YOU

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