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My understanding of the reason for passports is so that a person can be verified as a citizen of the United States and identified as such when cross an international border. Not only is it a waste of tax payers' money, it is also problematic to require individuals to be identified by the sex they were marked with at birth when they no longer identify (or present) that way. It also completely ignores the existence of intersex people who cannot be biologically considered either "male" or "female." If a trans man shows up at passport control with all the outward appearance of masculinity (facial hair etc) but a 'F' on his passport, that will require additional investigation. In the same way, a trans woman with a "M" on her passport, but who in every other respect presents as a woman, will likely find herself singled out for extra screening. These screenings take time, could take the form of harrassment, and in some countries might result in active harm for US citizens put at risk. It would be cheaper, easier, and less invasive to leave things as they are. Or, alternatively, remove the need for gender identification altogether. The rest of the information on a passport (name, date of birth, place of birth, and photograph) should be sufficient identification at any border crossing and not result in extra bureaucracy and administrative costs associated with making such a broad change.