Author Full Name: Aurelia Belmont Received Date: 02/19/2025 11:07 PM

Comments Received:

The ability for United States citizens to request a passport that reflects their identity and legal name is fundamental to the freedom expressed by the values of the Founding Fathers. A restriction of what gender identity markers are available, such as eliminating an "x" option, will eliminate millions of Americans from having an accurate passport. Intersex people, who do not possess a purely xx or xy chromosome, are effectively blocked from receiving an accurate passport if they are not able to place a marker that is not simply "male" or "female." Furthermore, limiting transgender people from updating their passport to accurately reflect their gender and their names presents several problems. First, it causes direct harm to transgender Americans on American soil, as they will not have documentation that matches the rest of their legal documentation, such as having a different birth certificate from their passport. Limiting transgender people from accurate passports also poses a severe security risk. By limiting millions of American citizens from obtaining an accurate passport, the State Department opens America up to bad actors who would attempt to circumnavigate the passport system to potentially cause harm to America and its people. Thank you very much for your consideration.