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I make this comment to discourage the change of gender markers on passports to "sex" and requiring the stricter criteria for choosing one's marker. To do so is not only a simple act of hostility towards Americans who don't fit neatly into such boxes, but ignores the realities that intersex people exist. Gender is a more flexible and neutral term more appropriate for international documentation. Furthermore this adds an undue layer of complexity regarding the renewal process, which appears only to exist to appease certain members of the current administration.

Furthermore, as a form of ID on the international stage, "gender" suggests to those interpreting the ID when presented that a person's identity should match their current publically visible state, rather than what may or may not be in their pants or on a separate document inaccessible to them.

Speaking frankly, neither sex or gender markers provide much of anything on passports, and we're only added in the 70s. It would save the state department a great deal of time and money to get rid of them entirely. They only provide, at best redundant information to the provided photograph, and at worst put us in situations like this where we have to have discussions about the precise wording of a single letter in the book.