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I am writing to comment on changes to the U.S. Passport Renewal Application for Eligible Individuals.

Preventing individuals from renewing passports with changes to gender markers poses a serious issue for the state department. Individuals who have changed their gender markers legally in their home states will not be able to have accurate Federal-level documentation. Such is the case for me, a transgender man who legally changed his gender marker to M in 2019. How am I meant to renew my passport when my old passport has my old gender marker? I cannot safely have two pieces of government identification that do not match.

Additionally, transgender people are at a high risk of violent crime based on their gender. Many transgender people, like me, resemble their gender and not their birth sex. For example, i have a mustache and a beard and a deeper voice. I do not resemble a woman in the slightest. Yet having a passport with the wrong gender marker (F) on it would put me at risk of violence based on my transgender status.