

**Author Full Name :** Anonymous**Received Date :** 02/21/2025 07:33 PM**Comments Received :**

Replacing "gender" with "sex" on passports does not help better clarify a person's identity, especially when it comes to transgender and gender expansive individuals. Not only does it create additional bureaucratic hurdles for government staff, which is not an efficient use of time or resources, it can put American citizens in danger and discomfort, whether they are gender diverse or cisgender with misprints who have burdensome responsibility of proof put upon them to correct such typographical errors. In the case of gender diverse and intersex citizens, forcing them into sex assigned at birth or flatly false and incorrect binary labels will can cause their valid documentation and their identity to be unduly scrutinized above and beyond other people because their visible characteristics contradict the sex markers mandated by this policy.

Particularly for those who have undergone hormonal or surgical treatments, forcing such categorization against the individual's will is not only cruel and unscientific, but also an inefficient waste of time, resources, and staff's mental energy; it does not help properly identify a person in a crowd, nor better prepare government officials who to be alert for in the case of a missing person or a threatening situation. It does invade the privacy of the gender diverse citizen, as well as strongly potentially limit their ability to travel or even get passport documentation at all; it could cause people difficulty when traveling in many ways---some relating to physical safety, some to social humiliation, some due to delays caused by undue scrutiny that would otherwise not be applied, some to overall discomfort due to stigma.

This rule change is inspired by an executive order dripping with clear animus towards transgender, gender expansive, and intersex people and is flatly anti-science. Not unscientific in the sense that there is some good-natured controversial debate or there is some misinterpretation of results but good intentions, but rather open, blatant disregard for what the scientific method and the medical community at large and reams of academic studies reveal to be accurate and a hostile disposition to the mere existence of a group of people as large as those born naturally redheaded with a clearly stated goal to broadly paint this entire group as "coercive," "wrong," "corrosive," "unhealthy," "unmoored," and "false" within EO14168 alone and utilizing far more aggressive and negative language to describe transgender people in following executive orders. These policy and orders are discriminatory and should not be implemented.

These policy changes make a vulnerable subclass of citizens feel less welcome and less valuable in our society that is meant to be based on the equality of all people. It is unjust, unfair, and infringes on their rights of freedom of expression, equal protection under the law, their right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness within the safety of the social contract, and it will not help better identify people without invading their privacy. In every respect, this policy change is going backwards in regards to social progress, is inefficient and ineffective, and is not based on sound science or policy but rather clear and open animus towards a marginalized and unpopular group that some people take pleasure in seeing suffer. It is cruel and not what we should stand for as a nation.