

Author Full Name : Sheldon Juncker**Received Date :** 02/22/2025 12:27 AM**Comments Received :**

The change to the passport forms requiring that "You must select sex marker option "M" (male) or "F" (female) that corresponds with your biological sex at birth." need to be dropped for the following reasons:

1. Safety - Transgender and non-binary individuals need to be able to list not their sex at birth but the sex that most people would assume that they are via visible sex characteristics. Otherwise, any use of a passport in the US or in other countries would out transgender and non-binary individuals and could carry a serious risk and/or make travel impossible.
2. Consistency - Because individuals can change their legal sex/gender on state documents, requiring a more strict version on passports and other federal documents will create discrepancies which may cause issues in verifying identities and security issues.
3. Privacy - It is not the business of the federal government to know what someone's sex at birth is given that this information is sensitive and not required for any official purpose and has only recently been on passports at all.
4. Biology - It is understood and accepted within all modern biology that biological sex is comprised of a collection of mostly mutable traits and that sex itself is bimodal (as opposed to binary). This form does not reflect this reality. Intersex people will also find these forms confusing/impossible as they will no longer have a selection which reflects their biological sex in any possible way.
5. Culture - Gender presentation and not biological sex is the primary way by which people identify themselves whether they are cis, trans, or non-binary. In society, we recognize gender based on expression and secondary traits and sex assigned at birth and chromosomes is only secondarily correlated.