

**Author Full Name :** Heather Huntley**Received Date :** 02/22/2025 11:22 PM**Comments Received :**

I am a 40 year old woman (assigned female at birth) and I consider the Executive Order pushing changes to passport applications to be unconstitutional, unnecessary, and a waste of money and time. Passports are primarily used to enter a country through customs and as an alternative form of identification from a driver's license or state ID. As such, a sex marker that differs from gender presentation is likely to cause delay in confirming validity. It's also possible customs agents or other officials, both in the United States and other countries, will scrutinize the passports of all people because of the increase in documents not appearing to match current presentation. I am concerned that an Executive Order presented as a protection for women will result in further difficulties, if not outright harassment and discrimination, for American women.

I am also applying for a passport this year (my prior passport expired) and I expect to travel internationally this summer. There have already been reports of passport processing time taking longer than usual. By implementing a new policy in a rushed and haphazard manner, the process will be further delayed. I fear my application may be questioned because I am a woman. I fear my documents may be investigated for validity solely on the basis of my sex and gender. It would be a waste of time and money. And it would delay obtaining my passport which could impact my travel plans, which would impact others in my family.

All of this frustration, fear, and inconvenience may be entirely pointless. The case of Zzyym v. Blinken has found and upheld that the Department of State violated the rights of an intersex American by denying them a passport. Zzyym was born with indeterminate genitals and therefore their birth certificate lists their sex as "unknown". According to the Executive Order issued by President Trump, the birth certificate could be invalid for not listing sex as either male or female. It could also prevent a passport from being accurate according to both biology and identity. Which is a clear demonstration of enforcement of the 14th Amendment. Requiring intersex, non-binary, and trans Americans to use a legal document that does not align with present reality is discrimination. The legal process against the proposed changes would be a waste of time and money, especially considering this present case.

I urge the Department of State to keep the current passport system in place. The system has been working as it is and has not shown problems associated with allowing individuals to use their current legally recognized gender.