

Author Full Name : Anonymous**Received Date :** 02/23/2025 05:40 PM**Comments Received :**

The proposed changes to the DS-5504 form, requiring applicants to list their sex as assigned at birth, create unnecessary obstacles for transgender and intersex individuals and contradict established legal precedent. As an American who travels frequently and has lived abroad, I understand how vital it is for identity documents to be accurate, consistent, and reflective of a person's lived reality. Federal courts, including in *Zzyym v. Pompeo*, have recognized that forcing individuals to use incorrect gender markers on passports is not only discriminatory but also creates serious risks.

For transgender individuals, mismatched identity documents can lead to invasive questioning, travel disruptions, and even harassment or violence when crossing borders. Many countries already have discriminatory policies that make travel difficult for trans individuals, and requiring an inaccurate sex marker on U.S. passports would only increase their vulnerability. For intersex individuals, this policy reinforces outdated medical and legal practices that erase their identities and fail to recognize the complexities of sex development. The State Department has long recognized that accurate identification protects individuals from these risks. Reversing course now would needlessly endanger people who rely on their passports for safe and accessible travel. I urge the State Department to maintain its current policies, which respect gender identity, uphold human dignity, and align with legal precedent.