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This rule should not adopted. Not allowing transgender citizens to change their gender markers on their passports puts them at risk to abuse from foreign officials. It might be ruled invalid when submitted for lodging, medical care, or other services while overseas. It will not match other vital documents that can/must be updated when someone transitions.

The agencies duty is to ensure passport documents allow for verifying ones citizenship, and produce an identity document that is valid for travel so one may safely go about their business. The department of state has a constitutional and legal duty to do this in a way that supports all citizens including the transgender community. If you fail to continue to allow for changing the gender marker on a passport, you will be violating the constitutional rights of many citizens of this country.