

Author Full Name : Anonymous**Received Date :** 03/05/2025 08:06 AM**Comments Received :**

I strongly oppose the proposed change to Form DS-82, which would eliminate the ability for individuals to update their gender marker during passport renewals. This policy will cause the Department of State to issue passports that are factually incorrect. It also forces transgender people to use outdated and incorrect passports, which creates unnecessary hardship and risk.

A transgender person who has legally changed their gender marker in other identification documents should not have to submit additional proof or face barriers when renewing their passport. Preventing updates to gender markers forces people to carry identification that does not match their lived identity, leading to distress, harassment, and even denial of travel. The State Department previously recognized the importance of self-identification in 2021 by allowing gender marker changes without medical documentation. Reversing this policy would be a harmful step backward for civil rights. It also places the USA behind other nations in regards to scientific and accurate uses of sex and gender on official documents. I urge the Department of State to allow transgender and nonbinary individuals to update their gender marker freely when renewing passports.