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To Whom It May Concern,

I am deeply concerned about the policy change that prevents individuals from updating their gender marker through the DS-5504 form. This form has historically been used for necessary data corrections, and gender marker changes should remain a part of this process.

This decision disproportionately harms transgender and intersex individuals, many of whom need to correct inaccurate gender markers that were assigned to them at birth. Forcing individuals to carry a passport that does not reflect their gender identity or external expression can lead to dangerous situations, including harassment and denial of services. Restricting this option makes it significantly harder for transgender and intersex people to obtain accurate documentation, despite medical, legal, and social recognition of their gender.

I strongly urge the Department of State to allow gender marker corrections under the DS-5504 form, ensuring that all Americans have access to passports that accurately reflect their identities and presentation.

Sincerely,
Asher Smith