

Author Full Name : Asher Smith**Received Date :** 03/09/2025 10:25 AM**Comments Received :**

To Whom It May Concern,

I strongly oppose the recent change requiring that U.S. passports reflect an individual's sex assigned at birth rather than their actual gender identity. This policy is harmful not only to transgender individuals but also to intersex people, many of whom were assigned a sex at birth that does not reflect their lived reality. The DS-11 application should continue to allow all individuals to obtain accurate documentation without being forced to carry identification that contradicts their identity and external presentation.

Passports are essential for travel, employment verification, and identification in daily life. This policy puts transgender and intersex Americans at risk of harassment, discrimination, and denial of services. Forcing people to use incorrect gender markers serves no legitimate purpose and only increases the likelihood of harm.

I urge the Department of State to reconsider this decision and reinstate the previous policy that allowed individuals to update their gender marker based on self-identification.

Sincerely,
Asher Smith