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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to object to the recent policy change that prevents transgender and intersex individuals from updating the gender marker on their passports during renewal through the DS-82 form. This reversal is unnecessary, discriminatory, and dangerous for transgender and intersex Americans, especially when traveling abroad where it may be dangerous or even potentially illegal to appear non-conforming to the gender listed on your ID .

The ability to renew a passport with the correct gender marker is crucial for safe international travel, employment, and legal identification. Without this option, transgender and intersex people will be forced to use outdated and inaccurate documents, putting them at risk of discrimination and even travel restrictions in certain countries.

I urge the Department of State to reinstate the ability for individuals to update their gender marker when renewing their passports. Accurate identification is a necessity, not a privilege.

Sincerely,
Asher Smith