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To accurately and effectively verify the identity and citizenship of the holder, passports must reflect the reality that there are more than two biological sexes. Thousands of Americans are born intersex, and do not biologically fall in either M or F category (see a large representative survey of trans US Americans attached). Additionally, there are thousands of Americans who identify as nonbinary and whose gender presentation may vary from day to day. For example, as a nonbinary individual, I may wear predominant masculine clothing one day with an unshaven (hairy) face; on another day, I may wear gender neutral clothing with feminine earrings and accessories. Being forced to present with either an M or F on my passport will cause unnecessary confusion and time anywhere my identity is being verified. That was my lived experience for the 12 years I did not have the option to select X as my sex on my governmental ID – frequently when presented an ID that did not have a sex marker matching my appearance that day, officials spent unnecessary time patting me down, asking further questions to verify my identity, etc. This was a distraction from their task: protecting national security.

Furthermore, forms that do not give a third option to M/F options are in violation of the injunction put on State by the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado in the Zzyym v. Blinken case (formerly Zzyym v. Pompeo, Zzyym v. Tillerson, and Zzyym v. Kerry).