

SB 120: Vital Record Sex Designation

Sponsor: Sen. Jacob Candelaria

Allows transgender New Mexicans to amend their birth certificate to reflect their true gender, without the requirement of surgery.

2011 National Transgender Survey

41%

of transgender people live without ID that match their gender identity

40%

of those who showed ID that did not match their gender identity/ expression reported being harassed

15%

reported being asked to leave

3%

reported being assaulted

The current requirement is unreasonable...

- 1** Surgery is invasive and not always a medically-safe or viable option.
- 2** Surgery is expensive and inaccessible to a community that experiences higher poverty rates than the general population.
- 3** Insurance providers are not required to cover gender reassignment surgery.
- 4** There are no practitioners in New Mexico who can perform complete gender reassignment surgery.
- 5** Being transgender is not dependent on whether or not one chooses to have surgery.

But, accurate & consistent documentation is crucial...

- 1** A birth certificate that has an incorrect gender on it "outs" a transgender person in any situation where they need to show the birth certificate - enrolling in school, applying for jobs, and obtaining other identity documents.
- 2** Identity documents with the incorrect gender expose transgender people to a range of negative outcomes, from denial of employment, housing, health and public benefits, to verbal harassment and even physical violence.
- 3** Not only is a birth certificate an important identity document itself, but it is a gateway document to securing other identity documents (e.g. U.S. passports).



Did You Know?

New Mexico has the third highest percentage population of transgender people in the country.

Where Documents Matter



Housing



Education



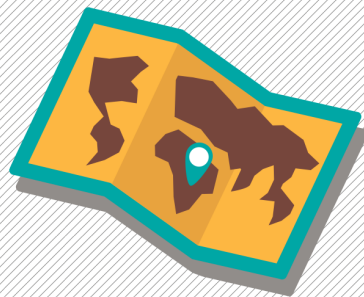
Health Care



Employment



Voting



Travel



Banking



Legal

**June
2010**

The U.S. Department of State eliminates the requirement of documentation of sex reassignment surgery to obtain a gender change on one's passport.

**June
2013**

The U.S. Social Security Administration eliminates the same requirement for changing gender markers on Social Security records.

More Information

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