GET THE INFORMATION YOU NEED ABOUT THE

GENDER RECOGNITION ACT

NEW LAW IN NEW YORK STATE

SIGNED INTO LAW IN JUNE 2021
DRIVER'S LICENSE PROVISIONS TAKE EFFECT JUNE 24, 2022
ALL OTHER PROVISIONS EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 21, 2021

THE GENDER RECOGNITION ACT WILL MAKE GETTING ACCURATE IDENTITY DOCUMENTS SAFER AND EASIER FOR TRANSGENDER AND NONBINARY NEW YORKERS

HIGHLIGHTS

- Adds an option to choose **a gender-neutral marker, X**, on both birth certificates and DMV-issued IDs
- **Removes the medical documentation requirement** for gender marker changes
- Finally **ends the publication requirement** for name changes
- Enables **Courts to issue orders recognizing an individual's gender identity**, if New Yorkers born out of state need such orders to update identity documents in their state of birth
- Allows **parents to change their own name on their child's birth certificate** and choose the title of "father," "mother," or "parent" on an original or amended birth certificate for their child
- Clarifies that **minors, with parental permission, can change the gender marker** on their state-issued birth certificates
- **Limits when a judge can require certain notifications or consents** (for example, judges will have to justify any orders to notify Social Security, Selective Service, etc.) for a name change to be granted or for the petitioner to receive their certified name change orders. Judges also may no longer require notice on immigration agencies.
- Allows an individual to **request that their name change records be sealed** (or protected from disclosure), permits the court to voluntarily seal such records, and requires the court to seal identifying information related to gender marker changes
- **Requires public and private entities to update documentation and records**

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