

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
POLICY

Subject: Conforming Birth Certificate Policies to Current Medical Standards for Transgender Patients

Document Number: PS-128-0

Effective Date: September 18, 2015

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POLICY STATEMENT

The South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) supports the belief that every individual should have the right to determine their gender identity and sex designation on government documents and other forms of government identification.

The SDSMA believes government documents and forms of government-issued identification should include an undesignated or nonbinary gender option – which would be in addition to the current “male” and “female” designations.

The SDSMA further supports the elimination of any requirement that individuals undergo gender affirmation surgery in order to change their sex designation on birth certificates; calling for a modernization of state vital statistics statutes to ensure accurate gender markers are noted on birth certificates, and ensuring that any change of sex designation on an individual’s birth certificate not hinder access to medically appropriate preventive care or other social services in accordance to that individual’s needs.

AUTHORITY

South Dakota State Medical Association Council of Physicians, 9/18/2015, 11/5/2021; Reaffirmed by South Dakota State Medical Association Board of Directors 11/8/2021.