



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ISSUE: BIRTH CERTIFICATES FOR AMERICANS BORN ABROAD

POLICY DESCRIPTION: The State Department provides birth certificates, known as Consular Report of Birth Abroad (CRBA), for children born abroad to parents who are U.S. citizens. Currently, a person must provide evidence of a legal name change to change the name listed on the birth certificate. Additionally, in order to change gender, an individual must provide a letter from a physician documenting sex reassignment surgery.

Recommendation for Change: We recommend that the policy for revising a CRBA be changed to allow individuals to update their birth certificates to reflect the accurate and appropriate gender in which they live. This requires that the surgery requirement be removed from the current policy.