



**MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**The Hon Kevin Rudd MP**

**ATTORNEY-GENERAL**  
**The Hon Robert McClelland MP**

**GETTING A PASSPORT MADE EASIER FOR SEX AND GENDER DIVERSE PEOPLE**

Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd and Attorney-General Robert McClelland today announced new guidelines to make it easier for sex and gender diverse people to get a passport in their preferred gender.

Under the guidelines, sex reassignment surgery will no longer be a prerequisite to issue a passport in a person's preferred gender.

"Sex and gender diverse people now have the option of presenting a statement from a medical practitioner supporting their preferred gender," said Mr Rudd.

"This amendment makes life easier and significantly reduces the administrative burden for sex and gender diverse people who want a passport that reflects their gender and physical appearance."

The initiative is in line with the Australian Government's commitment to remove discrimination on the grounds of gender identity and sexual orientation.

"Most people take for granted the ability to travel freely and without fear of discrimination," Mr McClelland said.

"This measure will extend the same freedoms to sex and gender diverse Australians.

"While it's expected this change will only affect a handful of Australians, it's an important step in removing discrimination for sex and gender diverse people.

"Importantly, this policy addresses a number of the recommendations contained in the Australian Human Rights Commission's *Sex Files* report."

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