

The voter you are talking to is transgender, meaning that their gender identity is different than the sex that was recorded on their birth certificate.

Transgender people are sometimes unable to update their IDs to reflect their identity for a number of reasons. **This is NOT illegal. As long as the relevant voter data (name and address) matches one of the acceptable forms of ID, the voter has the right to vote.**

Useful Information

Sex or gender discrepancies on ID are not valid reason to deny a regular ballot.

Transgender voters may have ID that indicates a different sex/gender than what they look like. They may not have had the opportunity to update their ID yet or may not be able to do so for various reasons, including state laws. This does not mean that their ID is invalid or fraudulent. Varying clothing, makeup or hairstyle on an ID photo is not a valid reason to deny a regular ballot. Voters may look different today than on their photo ID for many reasons.

The photo on an ID may reflect a different gender presentation. As long as you can identify the voter from their picture, the ID is valid for voting. A voter's transgender status and medical history is private.

Although you may be curious or confused about a voter's appearance, asking personal questions is not relevant to their right to vote and can even lead to litigation.

Transgender voters are not doing anything wrong or trying to deceive you. They are just being themselves. Transgender people have the right to vote just like everyone else, and it is your responsibility to ensure that they are able to do so.



Learn more about the
LGBTQ Justice Project.

ACLU
Mississippi



The LGBTQ Justice Project is a free legal clinic offering service to LGBTQ-identifying people. The Project also advocates for laws and policy that expand civil rights to marginalized LGBTQ communities.

If you are still confused about this person's right to vote, please speak to an election supervisor, an election judge in your area, or the ACLU of Mississippi by emailing LGBTQ@aclu-ms.org or calling (601)354-3408.