

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Does the DAR accept men (transwomen) as members? A: Yes.

“Transgender women have been, and continue to be, eligible for DAR membership.” - *Pamela Wright, President General FAQ October 2023*

Q: Does the DAR recognize men (transwomen) to be women? A: Yes.

“A transgender woman is not a man; a transgender woman is also not a man simply dressed as a woman. A transgender woman lives and identifies as a woman.” - *President General, Pamela Wright, FAQ October 2023*

Q: Does the DAR publicize that transwomen are eligible for membership on their website? A: No.

Q: Who determines membership eligibility for the DAR?

Each society decides for itself the meaning of its bylaws. RONR (12th ed) 56:68

Q: Did members of the DAR vote to allow this by adopting the bylaw amendment in 2023 that added additional anti-discrimination language? A: No.

“Some have asked if this means a transgender woman can join DAR or if this means that DAR chapters have previously welcomed transgender women? The answer to both questions is, yes. **The bylaw amendment does not change that fact**, and we will continue to welcome them into our Society in the future.” - *Pamela Wright, President General Message, October 2023*

“The Continental Congress vote addressed ‘sexual orientation,’ **not ‘gender identity’**—two distinct concepts often confused.” - *Susan Johnston, Texas State Regent, Mass email sent to Texas Daughters, March 18, 2025*

“The sole purpose of the amendment was to reinforce the Society’s commitment to nondiscrimination. **It had no connection to gender identity.**” - *Susan Johnston, Texas State Regent, District Workshops 2025*

“Gender eligibility is determined by their birth certificate, a longstanding NSDAR practice. **The 2023 amendments did not change this policy.**” - *Cricket Crigler, North Carolina State Regent, Mass email sent to North Carolina Daughters, February 17, 2025*

Q: If the members did not vote on this, then who made this decision to accept amended birth certificates for transwomen? A: No one at NSDAR will answer this.

Q: Does the DAR accept amended birth certificates for adopted women? A: No.

Q: Is gender identity a legally protected class for DAR membership? A: No.

Several states and the District of Columbia have laws that protect transgender people from discrimination in certain contexts, including employment, public accommodations, education, housing and other areas. **NSDAR is an employer in DC, so it is unlawful for the Society to discriminate against transgender people in hiring decisions**, for example. NSDAR is also a public accommodation, so **it would be unlawful for the Society to prevent transgender members of the public from coming to the Library, Museum or Constitution Hall, or from accessing bathrooms...**

In addition to being a public accommodation and employer, DAR is also a private membership association. **Its membership policies are generally considered outside of the scope of anti-discrimination laws when membership is restricted to people who share a protected characteristic - in this case, women.**

- *President General Pamela Wright, FAQ October 2023*

Q: What is a Resolute Chapter?

Pursuant to Article VIII, Section 7 of the National Bylaws, chapters across the country have adopted a Resolution calling for a Special Meeting. “A special meeting also shall be called by the President General upon the written request of thirty or more chapters in at least ten states. Not less than thirty days’ notice of a special meeting shall be given and only that business specified in the call may be transacted.” The business specified in the call is a Resolution that seeks to define a woman as understood since time immemorial.