The Utah Department of Corrections（惩教部） came under fire（受到抨击） Tuesday for discriminating against a transgender inmate（监狱犯人） who the [U.S. Department of Justice](https://apnews.com/hub/us-department-of-justice)（司法部） said was driven to harm herself after she was repeatedly denied hormone therapy in violation of（违反） the Americans with Disabilities Act.

A federal investigation found that the state corrections department imposed（强加，强制实行） “unnecessary barriers” to block the incarcerated/ɪnˈkɑːrsəreɪtɪd/（监禁的） trans woman from receiving treatment for intense gender dysphoria（性别焦虑症）. The woman’s psychological distress, which doctors attributed to a mismatch between her birth sex and her gender identity, worsened significantly while she was incarcerated in a men’s prison, according to the Justice Department report.

Gender dysphoria falls within the ADA’s definition of disability, meaning correctional facilities cannot deny medically appropriate care for people with the condition, according to a [2022 federal court（联邦法院） ruling](https://apnews.com/article/health-richmond-gender-identity-gay-rights-government-and-politics-24a5b820e2176054177428e5eee49b50).

“All people with disabilities including those who are incarcerated are protected by the ADA and are entitled to（有权） reasonable modifications（改进） and equal access to medical care, and that basic right extends to those with gender dysphoria,” said Kristen Clarke, assistant attorney /əˈtɜːni/（律师，（法律事务上的）代理人） general （总检察长）of the DOJ’s Civil Rights Division.