Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 vs Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026

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Why in News?

Recently, The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026 was introduced in the Lok Sabha.

Provision	2019 Act	2026 Amendment Bill
Definition – Transgender Person	Broad: anyone whose gender does not match birth-assigned gender; includes trans-man, trans-woman, intersex variations, genderqueer, socio-cultural identities.	Narrow: socio-cultural identities (hijra, kinner, aravani, jogta, eunuch) + congenital intersex variations; excludes sexual orientation, self-perceived identities, trans-man/woman, genderqueer.
Appropriate Government	Defined for Central, State, local authorities.	Clarified: Central Govt, State Govt, UT Administrator under Art. 239.
Authority	Not specified.	Introduces medical board headed by Chief/Deputy Medical Officer.
Recognition of Identity	Right to self-perceived gender identity.	Removes self-perceived identity; DM issues certificate after medical board recommendation; allows name change in official documents.
Change in Gender	Revised certificate optional (“may” apply).	Mandatory application (“shall” apply); medical institutions must furnish details of surgery to DM.
National Council	Representatives of States/UTs by rotation.	Director-level representatives, one each from 5 regions.

Provision	2019 Act	2026 Amendment Bill
Offences & Penalties	General offences → 6 months–2 years + fine.	Expanded offences: abduction, mutilation, forced identity, servitude → punishments up to life imprisonment + heavy fines.
Financial Memorandum	Not highlighted.	No recurring/non-recurring expenditure from Consolidated Fund.
Delegated Legislation	Rules for application and revised certificate.	Adds rules for medical institutions furnishing surgery details.

References

1. PRS India | Transgender Amendment Bill
2. PRS India | Transgender Amendment Bill

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