

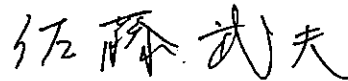
To whom it may concern,

Throughout the Gunma Prefectural Offices, the Romanic spelling for our prefecture's name "Gunma" is based upon the Kunrei-shiki Romanization System. This spelling method, outlined in 1954's *Cabinet Announcement Dai-ichi-gō*, is also recognized by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) having been given official certification, ISO3602, in 1989.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by convention dating back from before the Meiji Era, bases the names of Prefectures in Japan using the Hepburn Romanization System. As a result, passports issued for our prefecture contain the spelling "Gumma".

Therefore, those passports bearing "GUMMA" as well as other legal documents bearing "GUNMA" as inscribed for the place name are not incorrect and must be considered valid.

International Strategies Division
Gunma Prefectural Government



Takeo Sato
Director