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I have significant concerns about the new gender passport rules impacting transgender American's ability to safely travel internationally. By requiring someone to use their sex at birth on their passport, that is certain to lead to scenarios in which a trans person has a differing gender across different documents (e.g., foreign visas, state identification like drivers license, etc.) and / or a differing gender marking than that person's appearance (e.g., a trans male who looks unmistakably male using a document that says "F").

The implications these mismatches, unavoidable under new rules, could include Americans being rejected from travel due to misaligned documentation, being subject to foreign persecution, arrest, or harm due to it being clear that they are transgender, and issues returning to the U.S. due to documentation concerns.

All Americans should be able to travel freely internationally without these risks of inability to travel, or harm or arrest. In particular, one of my best childhood friends has had to reconsider international travel as a result of these rules, which is a scenario that the state department should not be causing.