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Comments Received:

I strongly oppose the proposed changes to passport form DS-5504 that include requests for biological sex at birth. These changes are unnecessary, invasive, and could lead to discrimination, privacy violations, and undue burdens for transgender and non-binary individuals.

As a medical doctor, I also want to emphasize that biologically speaking, sex is not strictly binary. Conditions such as intersex variations (e.g., androgen insensitivity syndrome, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, and chromosomal differences like XXY or XO) make it clear that biological sex exists on a spectrum. Requiring individuals to disclose their sex assigned at birth oversimplifies human biology and can cause unnecessary distress for those whose biology does not fit neatly into one of two categories.

Passports are travel documents intended to verify identity and citizenship, not to enforce ideological positions on gender. The current policies, which allow individuals to select their gender marker without invasive questioning, align with international best practices and ensure dignity, privacy, and equal access to travel for all U.S. citizens. I urge the Department of State to reject these harmful modifications and maintain passport policies that respect the rights and identities of all individuals.

Thank you for considering my comment.