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I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the DS-82 form, which are both unnecessary and harmful. The removal of the term “gender” in favor of “biological sex at birth” is a blatant attempt to erase transgender and nonbinary individuals from official recognition. This change disregards the lived experiences of countless Americans, forcing them to carry identification that does not reflect their identity and increasing the risk of discrimination and harm when traveling.

There is no legitimate administrative or security justification for this revision. The existing system, which allows individuals to identify their gender appropriately, aligns with international standards and best practices. Reverting to outdated, exclusionary policies does not enhance security or efficiency—it only imposes unnecessary burdens on transgender applicants, making it harder for them to obtain valid identification.

Furthermore, this change runs counter to global norms. Many countries recognize gender identity in official documents, understanding the importance of allowing individuals to present as who they truly are. The U.S. should be moving forward in protecting human rights, not regressing to policies that marginalize and endanger its own citizens.

The proposed revisions are discriminatory, cruel, and serve no purpose beyond advancing a harmful ideological agenda. I urge the Department to reject these changes and maintain a passport system that respects and affirms all Americans.