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Comments Received:

Isn't the purpose of an internationally standardized passport to allow for safe and simplified travel for Americans? Wouldn't it be challenging for Immigration Officers and/or TSA agents if suddenly the official passport documentation no longer reflected an individuals visual appearance? If I were an Immigration Officer I would immediately question the validity of a document that indicates a different gender identity/sex than the visual representation of the individual in front of me. This will throw a kink and cause significant time delays in all airports and border crossings internationally. These significant time delays could lead to complacency and increased terrorist activity. Isn't the safety of USA citizens more important? It is pertinent that the State Department conducts official studies and investigations on the potential side-effects of these changes before they are implemented.

Furthermore, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) format Doc9303 does not mention "Sex" or "Gender", implying that these proposed changes are being implemented to follow the ICAO standards is misleading and harmful to the public. In fact, the "Annex 9 to the convention on International Civil Aviation, Facilitation" (October 2017) mentions "gender" as a descriptor.

I believe the intended inclusion of a statement applicant statement, affirming that he or she is not required to register as a sex offender is designed with good intentions to stop sex trafficking in accordance with Megan's Law. However, I am concerned with how this will be enforced as several states have differing requirements for registration of sex offenders.