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## **Comments Received:**

I am submitting this comment regarding the proposed changes to Form DS-5504, particularly the requirement for applicants to list their biological sex at birth. This change is unnecessary, legally questionable, and creates practical issues for many passport holders.

Legally, this policy appears to conflict with the U.S. District Court's ruling in Zzyym v. Blinken, which found that rigid, binary sex classifications violate the rights of intersex individuals. Implementing a requirement to disclose biological sex at birth ignores this ruling and could expose the Department to further legal challenges.

Additionally, the science of sex determination does not support a strict binary classification. Differences in sex development (DSDs) are well-documented, and medical professionals acknowledge that sex assignment at birth is sometimes incorrect or incomplete. By requiring disclosure of biological sex at birth, the Department may force some individuals to provide inaccurate or conflicting information, leading to unnecessary bureaucratic complications.

As a transgender person currently in transition, I am also deeply concerned about the personal impact of this policy. I have already begun updating my legal documents, and the addition of sex at birth on a correction form may create contradictions between my U.S. passport and my future identity documents. Additionally, if I obtain dual nationality in a country that does not impose this restriction, I could face serious difficulties when presenting two passports with conflicting gender markers at international checkpoints. This policy would put people like me at risk of additional scrutiny, travel delays, and even denied entry in certain countries.

The DS-5504 form exists to help passport holders correct and update their legal documents, ensuring consistency across federal identification systems. Adding a requirement to disclose sex at birth actively undermines this goal. I urge the Department of State to reconsider this change in order to maintain clarity and ease of use for all passport holders.