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Comments Received:

I wish to comment on the updates to form DS-82, which include replacing the term "gender" with "sex" and the stipulation that passports must show the applicant's biological sex at birth. This change will disenfranchise a significant portion of the population who are born with indeterminate sex. U.S. citizens who are born intersex or with similar conditions are citizens who deserve full rights and protections under the law, and the insistence on erasing them or wrongly categorizing them as male or female will endanger them and curtail their rights. In addition, U.S. citizens should have the right to be identified by their gender, which is not always the same as their assigned sex at birth. Not only is this dangerous for the person who is mislabeled in this way, but it cannot possibly be a useful marker in identifying a person who is traveling. There are many other ID points--name, ID number, birthdate, place of birth, etc.--that do a more precise job of identifying a passport holder than their sex, gender, or how well they align with a given individual's expectations for either.