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I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed changes to the U.S. Passport Renewal Application (DS-82) as outlined in this notice. Specifically, the revision replacing the term "gender" with "sex" and restricting applicants to selecting only "biological sex at birth" is unconstitutional, discriminatory, and an unnecessary government overreach into personal liberties.

The federal government does not have the right to impose a rigid, scientifically unsound definition of sex that disregards decades of medical, psychological, and legal precedent. The Constitution guarantees equal protection under the law, and courts have repeatedly affirmed that gender identity is a protected characteristic under civil rights law. The proposed change erases and endangers transgender, nonbinary, and intersex Americans by forcing them into a legal fiction that denies their existence and identity.

Additionally, this revision contradicts the principles of individual liberty and personal freedom that this country claims to uphold. The government's role should not be to impose ideological purity tests through documentation but to ensure all citizens have equal access to necessary services. Restricting passport applicants in this way sets a dangerous precedent, giving the state unchecked power to define identity and impose invasive regulations based on political ideology rather than objective need.

This policy change is also impractical. Many transgender individuals already have legal recognition of their gender on other documents, such as state IDs, Social Security records, and previous passports. Forcing them to revert to an inaccurate "biological sex at birth" disrupts travel, employment, and security procedures, creating bureaucratic chaos rather than solving any real problem. The current system, which allows people to select their gender identity, has been in place for years without issue, and there is no legitimate governmental interest in reversing it.

Furthermore, this rule stands in opposition to international standards. Many U.S. allies and institutions recognize gender identity beyond strict binary definitions, and forcing American citizens to carry inaccurate identification will create complications abroad. This change places unnecessary burdens on individuals and families simply trying to exercise their right to travel.

Fundamentally, freedom means the ability to live one's life without unnecessary government interference. The government's attempt to enforce "biological truth" is a dystopian overstep that serves no function other than to alienate and harm an already vulnerable population. I urge the Department of State to reject this unnecessary and unconstitutional revision and to maintain policies that respect all citizens' rights and identities.