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It is a needless overreach to require applicants to submit their sex at birth on this form.

First, biological sex is a deeply flawed means of identifying a person when traveling, one of the primary functions of a passport. Sex at birth, akin to such obviously useless traits as length or weight at birth, does not reliably indicate a person's present-day features, particularly given the swathes of medical conditions and interventions ignored by E.O. 14168. It is an incontrovertible fact that hundreds of thousands of Americans' appearances do not match one's expectations of sex at birth. Tens of thousands more cannot define their sex as male or female due to intersex conditions. The proposed change will only cause confusion and inefficiency when these people apply for passports; they deserve to be able to travel as easily as all others.

Second, this information is unnecessary for the form's stated function of determining identity, nationality, and eligibility for a passport. For instance, the ICAO's Guide for Assessing Security of Handling and Issuance of Travel Documents (attached) gives no mention to sex at birth as a determining factor for an individual's identity. Moreover, the proposal will interfere with this determination when an applicant's other identity documents indicate a self-elected gender rather than sex at birth.

Put simply, this endeavor is a waste of time and money. The proposal is not only unnecessary to the proper functioning of the Department of State but actively in conflict with its purpose.