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I am a woman and US passport holder who frequently travels internationally. I'm concerned that these requirements to list sex assigned at birth on passport application forms are not necessary and create an undue burden on taxpayers and travelers. Requiring applicants to list sex assigned at birth on their passport rather than gender reduces the accuracy, utility, and clarity of that information. The scientific community agrees that there is a distinction between biological sex and gender, with sex reflecting biological characteristics and gender reflecting a person's identity (This is supported by the NIH and WHO). Given that, asking for gender rather than sex on passport forms is more clear and helpful for the purpose of an identity verification document. In addition, intersex individuals are not represented by a binary sex designation between "M" and "F", further reducing the utility of this proposed change by not allowing for an "X" designation.

Passport applications already ask for legal name, state of residence, and date of birth, which should be sufficient for identifying a traveler. Biological sex does not add utility for further identifying someone and therefore seems like a waste of time and resources. It would make sense to remove sex altogether for passports, or retain the current process for gender designations that many states have also adopted for drivers licenses.