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The proposed rule does not have a practical, legitimate interest it is protecting. Passports exist to facilitate travel and identification of travelers. That identification should reflect who the person is. Transgender people have always existed, and continue to exist and be recognized across the world and in the US, including by all major medical associations, for who they are.

This rule would mandate passports to contain information that would contradict a person's legal sex or gender (including what is on their birth certificate). This would create confusion, harm, and danger to the people using that passport for travel, and would serve no other legitimate purpose by the government.

The government should maintain the possibility for transgender people to carry passports that reflect their correct sex, that is, the sex with which they identify, and that is reflected in other documents they contain, such as State IDs and birth certificates. Sex assigned at birth is not relevant or helpful for identification purpose of travelers, as what should be reflected is the most accurate information possible about a person at a given time.

The EO under which this rule is based goes against the overwhelming scientific consensus on the understanding of biological sex as a complex and evolving concept. The EO also contradicts legal changes to sex and gender, which are currently allowed in most US states, as a way to more accurately reflect a person's identity--which, again, should be the purpose of an identity document.

I urge the government to withdraw this rule and revert to the former forms and processes used to accurately reflect an applicant's gender on passports.