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Comments Received :

Hello, I am a woman and American citizen and I am vehemently against the changes proposed by this notice. I go into detail as to why below.

To quote the notice:

"To comply with E.O. 14168, "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government," the Department updated the form to replace the term "gender" with "sex." "

This does absolutely nothing to protect women from what you refer to as "Gender Ideology Extremism." The change of verbiage on a government form affects me in no tangible way and does not grant me any piece of mind or feeling of safety.

However, it does affect my fellow American citizens. Not only will these changes disproportionately affect trans people who have followed the LEGAL and GOVERNMENT REQUIRED processes to change their gender from the one assigned to them at birth to the one they actually identify as, it will also affect intersex people.

I quote you here:

"Consistent with the E.O., the revised DS-82 will request the applicant's biological sex at birth, male "M" or female "F."

Intersex people by definition were born with reproductive organs associated with both the male and female anatomy. If you are assigning "sex" on a binary system based on genitals and biology, you are failing to recognize an entire population of people. By implementing this change, you effectively imply that intersex people do not exist. This is scientifically, medically, and factually false. The binary gender system in the proposal makes no sense and is, in fact, wrong in every meaning of the word.

Furthermore, I couldn't help but notice the summary of the financial impacts these changes would have. I am assuming your figures of both time burden and cost burden are yearly, since you do not provide this information anywhere.

You cite the current time burden at 15,604,583 hours, and estimate that the proposed changes will increase the time burden to 33,553,043 hours. Meaning, government employees will spend more time and energy processing passport renewals with the changes made than they currently do.

More importantly, I notice the cost burden is estimated to increase from the current \$207,192,150 to a staggering \$445,505,445. How can you justify a yearly increase of almost 250 million dollars, just to impose a form change that neither protects women, is scientifically sound, nor makes any other beneficial impact to the life of any American citizen?

Lastly, what happens when a trans woman, who "passes" or is easily recognizable to the masses as a woman, travels to another country, is stopped by customs, and has a passport with a mismatched gender marker? I suppose in some places this could be explained, but given the homophobic laws in many other countries could cause this person to be imprisoned, or worse.

I urge you to reconsider this change. It benefits absolutely no one, and could have violent impacts on American citizens.