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Setting ethics aside for a moment (as I'm sure others will be able to cover that much more elegantly than I can), forcing birth gender to be the only available gender marker on passports is a bureaucratic disaster in the making. Anytime someone whose appearance doesn't match that designation tries to travel, it's bound to create unnecessary complications—not just for them, but potentially for the U.S. government. The time and effort wasted untangling these issues is completely avoidable. From a sheer efficiency perspective, there's no justifiable reason to lock passports into birth gender as the sole option.