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## **Comments Received:**

I oppose the proposed changes to passport renewal information collection as it was created out of a clear animus for transgender individuals, and not as a matter of proper information collection or national security. The cost of this change is a misuse of tax funds when it improves nothing in regards to agency procedures or the safety of US borders, while going against current legal precedence in US federal courts.

The definitions used in the Executive Order cited are not based in scientific reality, as sex can not be determined beyond a measure of a doubt at birth. Sex consists of many complex physiological processes, many of which don't even become active until puberty and adolescence. The idea that an individual's sex is immutable is not based on any established scientific fact, but on a personal belief and ideology rooted in animus. The ICAO requirements for scanned identity documents do not differentiate between a person's current sex and their assumed sex at birth. There is no reason to waste tax payer funds by adding unnecessary extra layers of verification to collect a past data point that may not be relevant to the person the documents are identifying in the present.

By basing the sex marker upon a past assumption at birth, and not the current lived experience and outward presentation of an individual, it creates additional cost and labor for border patrol agencies to determine if identification documents are valid for the individuals presenting them. This animus-imposed confusion is an unnecessary burden to border patrol budgets both at home and abroad, and an irresponsible waste of tax payer dollars that reduces the security of our borders, not improves them.

Finally, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the governing body for all electronically scanned documents used by border patrols worldwide recognizes three sex markers, M, F, and X. The X marker is a placeholder for people who choose not to specify their sex. This option should remain available to all people, regardless of their gender. Intersex individuals may choose to use the X marker to avoid committing a falsehood by putting male or female as their sex, since neither term accurately identifies their sex. As such, in Zzyym v. Blinkin (2016, 2018) the courts upheld that an X marker option must be provided on federal documentation. There is no reason to waste tax payer dollars in an attempt to violate this ruling.