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## **Comments Received:**

The proposed changes to the DS-82 passport renewal process, requiring applicants to identify their sex as assigned at birth, would impose unnecessary and harmful burdens on transgender and intersex individuals. As an American who travels frequently and has lived abroad, I know how critical it is for passports to reflect a person's true identity to ensure smooth travel and personal security. Current policies align with legal precedent, including Zzyym v. Pompeo, which affirmed the right of non-binary and intersex individuals to have accurate gender markers on federal documents. Additionally, numerous courts have upheld the ability of transgender individuals to update identification documents to reflect their lived gender, recognizing that discrepancies can lead to discrimination and barriers to travel, employment, and personal safety. Reinstating a birthassigned sex requirement would be a regressive step that conflicts with established rights and places an undue burden on individuals seeking to renew their passports. The State Department must continue to uphold policies that affirm and respect gender identity, rather than implementing changes that put vulnerable communities at risk.