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The State Department's recent proposal to mandate that passport applicants identify their sex as assigned at birth undermines the rights and identities of transgender and intersex individuals. As an American who travels frequently and has lived abroad, I understand firsthand the importance of accurate and secure identity documents for international mobility and personal safety. This policy shift reverses previous advancements, such as the 2022 policy allowing self-selection of gender markers without medical documentation, including an 'X' option for non-binary individuals. Notably, in *Zzyym v. Pompeo*, the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado ruled that denying a passport to an intersex individual who did not identify as exclusively male or female was unlawful, emphasizing the necessity for federal recognition of diverse gender identities. Reverting to a system that disregards an individual's lived gender not only contravenes established legal precedents but also exposes transgender and intersex persons to potential discrimination and harm. It is imperative that passport policies respect and affirm an individual's current gender identity, ensuring both their dignity and safety.