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## **Comments Received:**

Restricting passport name and sex to those assigned at birth significantly endangers transgender and non-binary travelers by exposing them to discrimination, harassment, and violence. A 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey revealed that 46% of transgender individuals presenting identification with a name or gender marker inconsistent with their gender presentation faced verbal harassment, denial of services, or physical assault. A passport that does not reflect the physical reality of how an individual presents themselves has left many transgender and non-binary individuals with passports that misrepresent their gender identity, increasing the risk of invasive questioning, detainment, or denial of entry by border officials during international travel. For instance, actress Hunter Schafer reported receiving a passport with a male gender marker despite her long-standing identification as female, highlighting the practical difficulties and potential dangers posed by such misgendered documentation. I have also been almost denied entry to a foreign country and taken for questioning due to not closely enough matching my passport photo and in a different situation, an individual could be a physical risk putting Americans in danger due to these policy choices. These risks are further amplified in countries with anti-LGBTQ+ laws, where authorities may use mismatched identification as grounds for legal action, imprisonment, or deportation. Therefore, policies that permit accurate representation of an individual's gender and name on passports are crucial for ensuring the safety and dignity of transgender and non-binary travelers.