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I am writing to express my concerns regarding recent changes to the U.S. passport application process, particularly those that impact individuals who have transitioned and need their passport's gender marker to accurately reflect their presentation. I am a U.S. citizen who has taken medical steps to transition, including hormone therapy and surgeries. I am perceived as female by the public, and I conduct my daily life and social interactions as a female.

1. Personal Background and Current Situation

I am a conservative individual who values accurate and consistent government documentation.

I have completed significant steps in my transition, including medically recognized treatments, to align my appearance with the way I present myself in society.

Despite these medical steps, the recent passport policy changes may prevent me from listing the female gender marker, which reflects how I am recognized and treated in day-to-day life.

2. Practical Impact and Potential Consequences

Risk of Discrimination and Harassment: When my government-issued documents do not match my outward appearance, I am more likely to face intrusive questioning or discriminatory treatment during travel.

Discrepancies at Checkpoints: Inconsistent documentation can draw unnecessary scrutiny from customs and border officials, as well as airline personnel, leading to delays or potential denial of services.

Emotional and Logistical Burden: Repeatedly explaining why my documentation does not reflect my appearance is stressful and disrupts the efficiency of my work and personal travel.

3. Importance of Accurate Documentation

A passport that reflects my physical presentation and legal identity is critical for traveling without complications.

Ensuring that my passport accurately matches my appearance benefits not only me but also streamlines security and identification processes for officials.

4. Request for Reconsideration

I respectfully urge the Department of State to allow people in my position, who have medically transitioned and live as female, to obtain a passport that aligns with our publicly recognized appearance.

This consideration would reduce instances of confusion or discrimination and uphold the value of consistent, factual identification documents for U.S. citizens