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As someone who regularly travels internationally via Dulles airport, I often find the passport control lines inconveniently long, both at the foreign airport but especially when returning to Dulles. Issuing passports that list biological sex at birth rather than a gender accurately describing the traveler's current gender presentation seems certain to produce delays in passport processing, at both US and foreign airports. This will seriously inconvenience not only the transgender, intersex, and other travelers whose gender presentation does not match their sex at birth, but also all the other US travelers waiting for passport control at US and foreign airports.

The applicant's biological sex at birth seems irrelevant to the identification purpose for which gender was collected, and I see no legitimate reason for biological sex at birth to be collected at all as part of the passport application or renewal processes. This proposed collection of personal information appears to violate the Privacy Act.

Also, the proposed statement that the applicant is not required to register as a sex offender seems excessively broad for its stated purpose of supporting International Megan's Law. The law refers to a "covered sex offender" defined as someone "who is a sex offender by reason of having been convicted of a sex offense against a minor". Rather than asking about sex offender registration in general, the application and renewal process should echo the text of the law and ask if the applicant is "a sex offender by reason of having been convicted of a sex offense against a minor".

If the US intends to prevent sex offenders whose offenses do not involve a minor from traveling internationally, they should do so by passing a law or regulation that clearly states that as its intended purpose. International Megan's Law supports only a narrower change than is proposed here.