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Comments Received:

I strongly urge the Department of State to reconsider the changes to Form DS-11 requiring the disclosure of "biological sex at birth." This change serves no practical purpose, creates unnecessary barriers for transgender and nonbinary individuals, and is in direct violation of the Zzyym v. Blinken ruling. The U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado already determined that denying accurate gender markers on passports is unlawful. Implementing this requirement is not only discriminatory but also an egregious waste of taxpayer money, as legal precedent has already struck down such restrictions.

As a nonbinary individual, I have relied on an accurate passport to ensure my safety while traveling. Having documentation that reflects my true identity reduces the risk of harassment and violence at TSA checkpoints and international borders. Many trans and nonbinary people experience severe consequences when their documentation is inconsistent, ranging from denied entry to detention. The U.S. government should not be complicit in forcing people into these dangerous situations.

Beyond the harm to trans and nonbinary individuals, this policy fails to recognize the existence of intersex people, many of whom are born with biological characteristics that do not fit into a simple male/female binary. Even under the definitions outlined in this executive order, there are people born infertile who do not fit a strictly binary sex classification. The federal government has already acknowledged the reality of intersex people in legal rulings—why reverse course now?

The previous system worked. The inclusion of an "X" gender marker helped U.S. citizens obtain accurate passports without causing administrative burden. This proposed change is unscientific, legally dubious, and unnecessary. I urge the State Department to respect the court's ruling and protect the dignity of all U.S. citizens.