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Hello,

The current proposed changes to applications for passport regarding requiring gender at birth on passports should NOT be enacted.

First, these changes would put US citizens at risk when travelling abroad, risking barrier to entry to other countries, detention, imprisonment, or other punishments by foreign states if gender presentation does not match documentation.

Second, these changes will cost the US government and it's citizens money in changes to procedure, changes to documentation, and other unforeseen costs.

Third, these proposed changes are a politically-motivated move to cater to religious groups and are intended to punish a minority class for their identity.

The proposed changes, for these reasons, do not align with the US Department of State's mission to formulate and implement foreign policy and advance economic interests abroad, and are directly contrary to its missions to promote democracy and human rights and to protect US citizens abroad. They would only serve to make US citizens less safe, promote the treatment of transgender persons as second-class citizens, and to frighten and make life difficult for a group of people who are only trying to live a happy life, an unalienable right enumerated by the founding document of our country as the right to "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." For these reasons, the proposed changes should NOT be enacted.