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I am concerned about the proposal to change of "gender" to "sex" on passport applications and about the fact that the only options seem to be male "M" or female "F." There are many hormonal and chromosomal conditions which can lead to a person's biological sex not being possible to categorize neatly into "male" or "female". Examples include Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome, 5-alpha reductase deficiency (colloquially know as "Penis at 12 syndrome"), polycystic ovary syndrome, hormone treatment for gender dysphoria, Klinefelter syndrome, Turner syndrome and genetic mosaicism. Since the primary purpose of the gender designation on a passport is for identification purposes, it makes more sense to have it align with a person's name, appearance and social role and pronouns than to try to make it address the sometimes biologically complicated question of sex.

This change is apparently intended to comply with the so called "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" order but, as a woman, I do not see how this change will defend me from any threat. I do, however, see ways that it could cause confusion, make it difficult if not impossible for some people to get passports and put people I love at risk of harassment and discrimination.

Please reject this change for the sake of clarity and the safety of American citizens traveling abroad.