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I strongly oppose the proposed changes that would require the disclosure of an applicant's biological sex at birth. These changes undermine the privacy, dignity, and rights of transgender individuals and serve no legitimate purpose in passport issuance or identity verification.

Passports are legal documents designed to establish identity and facilitate international travel. For years, the U.S. has rightly recognized that an individual's gender identity is what matters for these purposes, not outdated or invasive questions about their sex assigned at birth. Reinstating such requirements would forcibly out transgender individuals, exposing them to discrimination, harassment, and even violence.

Furthermore, these changes contradict long-standing principles of privacy and equal protection under the law. Transgender individuals are entitled to accurate identification documents that reflect their lived reality, just as any other citizen. The federal government should continue to respect their right to self-identification, as denying this serves only to create barriers and hardship without any rational justification.

I urge the State Department to reject these proposed changes and uphold policies that respect and affirm the identities of all Americans.