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## **Comments Received:**

This proposed change is not aligned with established scientific understanding or biological reality. Additionally, it introduces numerous flaws that will create challenges for travellers and impose unnecessary costs and burdens on border authorities.

Firstly, it is crucial to assess this policy against actual biological conditions. Intersex variations and forms of chromosomal chimerism are well-documented. In fact, intersex individuals outnumber transgender individuals and would be disproportionately affected by this change.

Secondly, many transgender individuals have undergone gender-affirming surgeries, meaning that beyond their chromosomes, there would be little physical evidence to indicate their assigned sex at birth. This would create further complications, leading to increased costs and inefficiencies for border protection forces. Given the emphasis on reducing unnecessary government spending, this policy would instead result in expanded checks, wrongful detentions, legal challenges, and delays for the general travelling public.

Thirdly, passports serve as essential documents for international travel, and many other countries acknowledge the scientific complexities of sex, gender, and chromosomal variations, including intersex conditions. Implementing this policy would place the U.S. at odds with global partners, potentially discouraging tourism—a sector already experiencing declines due to various concerns. While the immediate impact may seem limited, many supportive family members, friends, and conscientious travellers may choose to avoid visiting the U.S. in response. This trend is already evident due to policy decisions based on opinion rather than scientific reality.

Finally, it is imperative to examine the evidence regarding whether this change would enhance women's safety. To date, there is no credible research or peer-reviewed study supporting this claim. Any policy change should be informed by rigorous scientific inquiry from reputable institutions.