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Comments Received:

When I traveled abroad this past summer, having a passport that showed that I was who I claimed to be and was a U.S. citizen was an important part of leaving and re-entering the United States. I began transitioning from female to male years ago, and when people look at me, they see a man. If my passport had shown my sex as female, it not only would have been inaccurate, it could have created unnecessary work for customs agents as they tried to figure out my situation. This would have been inefficient for the government, and it would have been unfair to me. Freedom of movement is a human right, and by forcing transgender citizens—and intersex citizens, as well—to put our sex assigned at birth on our passport instead of the gender that matches the way we live our lives and the way others see us, the State Department would be limiting this right. For these reasons, I strongly urge that the State Department reject the proposed changes and protect the right of transgender Americans like me to renew our passports with our self-identified genders.