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I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed changes to the Application for a U.S. Passport: Name Change, Data Correction, and Limited Passport Book Replacement, as outlined in the executive order titled "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government."

The proposed changes are based on a flawed understanding of gender and sex, and I am concerned that they will not only fail to protect women but also cause harm to vulnerable individuals. Here are some specific issues I have with the proposed changes:

**Overly Broad Definitions:** The proposed changes rely on overly broad definitions of sex and gender, which do not reflect the nuanced understanding of these concepts held by the medical and scientific communities. This could lead to arbitrary and discriminatory decisions when processing passport applications.

**Potential for Increased Discrimination:** The proposed changes could lead to increased discrimination against transgender and non-binary individuals, as well as intersex individuals. This could manifest in various ways, such as difficulties in obtaining accurate identity documents, increased risk of harassment and violence, and negative impacts on mental health.

**Administrative Burdens:** The proposed changes could create unnecessary administrative burdens for both applicants and the Department of State. For example, requiring additional documentation or evidence to support a name change or data correction could lead to delays and increased costs for applicants, as well as increased workload for Department staff.

**Lack of Consultation:** It appears that the proposed changes were developed without adequate consultation with medical and scientific experts, as well as with women's rights and LGBTQ+ advocacy organizations. This lack of consultation could result in policies that are not evidence-based and do not reflect the needs and experiences of the communities they aim to serve. Instead of pursuing these misguided changes, I urge the Department of State to focus on policies that genuinely protect and support all women, including transgender women. I also encourage the Department to engage in meaningful consultation with relevant stakeholders to develop policies that are evidence-based, inclusive, and respectful of the diversity of human experiences. Thank you for considering my comments.