

**Author Full Name :** Alex Kafantis**Received Date :** 03/06/2025 07:24 PM**Comments Received :**

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes to the Application for a U.S. Passport, 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The proposed changes are based on a narrow and outdated understanding of gender and sex, and I am concerned that they will not only fail to protect women but also cause significant harm to transgender and non-binary individuals. Here are some specific concerns I have with the proposed changes:

**Outdated Definitions:** The proposed changes rely on outdated definitions of sex and gender, which do not reflect the current understanding of these concepts in the medical and scientific communities. This could lead to arbitrary and discriminatory decisions when processing passport applications.

**Potential for Increased Harassment and Violence:** The proposed changes could increase the risk of harassment and violence for transgender and non-binary individuals. This is because the changes could lead to increased scrutiny and mistrust of their identity documents, making them more vulnerable to discrimination and violence.

**Negative Impacts on Mental Health:** The proposed changes could have negative impacts on the mental health of transgender and non-binary individuals. This is because the changes could make it more difficult for them to obtain accurate identity documents, which are essential for accessing necessary services and living authentically.

**Lack of Evidence-Based Policy Making:** 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.