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Comments Received:

Please remove the change of gender markings to sex, and requiring applicants to have their passport reflect their gender assigned at birth. This is dangerous for individuals who are transgender, intersex, and gender-nonconfirming; especially for those whose documents have already been altered (birth certificate, driver's license, other forms of ID) to reflect their current identity. There will be so many people who will face difficulty traveling because their documents do not match. Not to mention, for individuals who have had gender-affirming surgery or gone through hormone replacement therapy, they will not look like the sex/gender marking on their passport. This could pose danger for these individuals when traveling to foreign countries, especially countries that have laws making it illegal to be a member of the LGBTQ community.

As a country founded on the bases of freedom, liberty, and welcoming peoples of diverse backgrounds, we should not be enforcing policies that harm others, especially communities that are already being discriminated against so heavily in public media. Justifying this change in passport applications by saying it is defending women is misleading and not based in factual data. Women are not endangered by the gender markings on a passport. In fact, there are women who are intersex and trans who have fully transitioned who will be greatly harmed by this policy.