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I am writing to request reinstatement of the policy to allow name and gender marker changes on new and renewing passport applications. I am a member of the LGBTQ+ community, and am in relationships with people for whom this policy change has had SIGNIFICANTLY damaging psychological impact and has added unnecessary and cruel stressors onto innocent people who are just trying to live their lives. Not only does it make travel outside of the United States impossible for affected individuals, it is one of many ill-conceived policies that increase the potential for danger and violence against them, for no other reason than political brinkmanship and fear mongering.

This new mandate has no foundation in actual science, and is simply a political effort by the billionaire class to deflect attention from the abject corruption that has infiltrated the executive branch. The tactic of dehumanizing a marginalized and vulnerable population of people in order to perpetuate a manufactured class war is both a despicable and disgraceful use of public funds and public interest. Enough with the charlatan games, let people live their harmless lives in peace and freedom.

Reinstate the ability for applicants to request name and gender marker changes to their passports to align with other state and federally issued documents that align with their gender identity. To do otherwise is a cruel and inhumane reflection of a country and government that is no longer serving its people, nor deserving of the privilege.