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I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the DS-82 Passport Renewal Form that require applicants to list their "biological sex at birth" instead of their gender. This change creates unnecessary barriers for transgender, nonbinary, and intersex individuals, many of whom already face discrimination and delays when obtaining accurate identification.

Forcing a mismatch between state-issued IDs and passports puts people at risk of harassment, travel restrictions, and employment challenges. The current system allowing self-identification has worked and should remain in place.

One of the primary functions of a passport is identification. The information on the passport should be updated to match the identity of passport holder. A person's biological sex at birth is no more helpful in providing identification than their height and weight at birth. What is important and useful for identification is how the person currently appears.

I urge the State Department to withdraw this harmful proposal and maintain the ability for passport applicants to have identification that reflects who they are.