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Comments Received:

Forcing a transgender, non-binary, or intersex person to accept a government identification document that does not align with their true gender identity violates scientific consensus, their safety and security, and fundamental human rights. It has been well established by the scientific community that gender dysphoria is a legitimate biological condition. It is estimated that 1.4 million Americans identify as transgender and that 0.6% of Americans experience gender dysphoria. There are multiple biological causes for GD. Fortunately, it can typically be rectified with gender-affirming care. Further, experts estimate that up to 1.7% of the population are born with intersex traits. Their gender identity is frequently unclear, as they can possess physical traits of both sexes. Additionally, an estimated 1.2 million Americans identify as non-binary. An Executive Order requiring passports to have only two gender options--and for those options to be linked to a person's assigned gender at birth--is akin to an Executive Order proclaiming that the sun revolves around the Earth. I have attached a research paper (downloaded from NIH) with additional information about gender dysphoria. There are more than 1500 other scholarly papers on the subject.

A trans woman IS a woman, regardless of where she is in her transition. The same is true for a trans man. Gender-affirming care enables a person to look and sound more like the gender they identify with. Forcing a trans person to present a passport declaring them to be a different sex than they appear, threatens their safety and security by opening them up to unwarranted investigation, harassment, and--depending on the country--possible arrest and imprisonment. Forcing a trans, non-binary, or intersex person to accept a government identification document with an inaccurate gender identification is a violation of Article 2, Article 3, Article 7, Article 12, and Article 22 of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This proposed passport change must be denied.