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I urge the Department to abandon this proposed change. The collection of a passport applicant's assigned sex at birth is not necessary for the proper functions of the Department. In fact, sex at birth cannot be used to confirm identity of the passport holder and confusion and uncertainty around the holder's sex at birth vs. their apparent gender expression would lead to inefficient and ineffectual processing of information required to confirm identity. In addition to the burdens on authorities using the passport for identification purposes, burdens on fellow travellers reliant on timely processing of passport applications and timely confirmation of identity while travelling, burdens on taxpayers, and burdens on Dept of State employees, the change would place a great burden on passport applicants who do not identify with their assigned sex at birth. Not only can public declaration of sex at birth be a psychological burden, it puts the passport holder at increased risk of discrimination and violence. I cannot state strongly enough how misguided I believe this proposed requirement to be. Please reject this proposed change. Thank you.