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Dear State Department Officials,

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed policy change regarding passport gender markers. The recent executive order from President Trump's administration appears to erase the identity and existence of transgender, intersex, and nonbinary Americans by denying them accurate identification documents that match their gender identity.

Identity documents serve a fundamental purpose - to accurately identify who we are. For millions of Americans, these documents are essential for daily life: traveling domestically and internationally, securing employment, accessing banking services, enrolling in educational institutions, and interacting safely with law enforcement.

When a person's identification documents don't match their gender presentation, they face heightened risks of harassment, discrimination, and even violence. This isn't merely inconvenient - it can be dangerous. For 30+ years, our country has recognized the importance of allowing citizens to have documentation that accurately reflects their gender identity. The proposed requirement to provide evidence of biological sex at birth creates unnecessary hardship for applicants and burdens government resources with investigating deeply personal information that has no bearing on passport security or validity. The federal government has no legitimate interest in scrutinizing such private details of its citizens.

A fair and thoughtful government policy would recognize that all Americans deserve equal treatment and respect. This change targets a vulnerable minority population and strips away their access to essential identification documents they need to participate fully in society.

I strongly urge you to maintain our longstanding policy that allows all Americans - including transgender, intersex, and nonbinary individuals - to obtain passports that accurately reflect who they are. This isn't about special treatment; it's about equal treatment under the law.

Respectfully,
Emily Kelley