

Author Full Name : Anonymous**Received Date :** 03/13/2025 12:28 PM**Comments Received :**

Regarding:

Title of Information Collection: Application for a U.S. Passport.

OMB Control Number: 1405-0004.

Type of Request: Renewal of a Currently Approved Collection.

(as well as other proposals of a similar nature, which will be commented upon separately with the same arguments)

The State Department is wasting my taxpayer dollars as well as its limited resources (thanks to the machete being blindly swung at government payroll) with this proposal. Do not waste time and money on this to “comply” with a document that is not law. The State Department is not required to do this, and therefore this proposal is NOT necessary for the proper functioning of the Department. If the estimated time burden listed of 17,948,460 hours is anywhere close to accurate, that means this change would require, if my math is correct:

1,495,705 hours of work per month

appr. 345,428 hours of work per week

appr 49,347 hours of work per day (not per workday, this is per calendar day)

If employees work 8 hour shifts per day, that means that every day, 6168 employees would be required to execute this change.

I sincerely hope 17,948,460 hours is a typo by whoever wrote up this proposal.

The “utility of the information to be collected” is somewhat absurd - the requested information, in many circumstances, could not accurately reflect the applicant and could cause far more harm than good. Imagine someone who presents in a stereotypical way, say, a person who has long hair, makeup, earrings, high heels and a skirt on; societally we have been conditioned to assume that a person dressed this way is a woman. If she presents a passport that marks her gender as “M”, she would absolutely be a target for security, who would very likely assume that this was some sort of fraud. If she presents a birth certificate from a state that allows trans people to change the gender marker on the document, the birth certificate and passport would not match, further escalating the situation.

There is no legitimate purpose for implementation of this proposal, which is made further ridiculous by the estimated burden of implementing and executing it in the first place. The “quality” and “clarity” of the resulting information collected would be negligible for reasons stated above: there is a very real possibility of a person presenting what seems to be conflicting information on official government documents and being subjected to discrimination, harassment, and accusations of fraud. Please use those 17 million hours in a more productive way.