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I oppose this proposal for innumerable reasons. Among them:

- (1) It is unnecessary; there is no evidence that the existing form has created security concerns or other problems.
- (2) It is hurtful; it places trans people in the position of having to deny their gender identity in order to obtain or retain a passport.
- (3) It is mean-spirited; it is designed to make trans people feel unwelcome and isolated. I have direct experience of this. One of my close family members -- a wonderful, productive person -- is trans. They feel as though their country wants to deny their existence. And for what?
- (4) It is ignorant; the overwhelming scientific and sociological consensus recognizes gender identify as a central measure of self-hood.
- (5) It is contrary to the spirit of liberty and individual choice that our elected leaders profess to support. Such defining matters of identity should be left to individuals, not imposed by reactionary "leaders."
- (6) It is contrary to the fundamental principle that all people are entitled to equal protection of the laws.
- (7) It is dangerous; border control agents will be empowered to make arbitrary decisions, based on their own prejudices, about whether and how people will be able to travel across the border.
- (8) Today, trans people. Tomorrow, who knows. This change will lead to targeting other groups disfavored by the people currently in power. All such efforts are equally offensive.
- (9) I don't know what Trump's hang-up is. If he has personal insecurities, that's his business. But the Federal Government should not contort itself to accommodate his neuroses.

This is a terrible proposal. Please reject it.