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This information collection proposal is unclear and unnecessary. It will create an additional and unnecessary burden on minority groups of people just trying to live their lives.

The collection is not necessary because there is no legitimate security need for passports to include the sex a person was assigned at birth. Self-reported sex identity is more accurate and descriptive of a person's true appearance and social position. If the information included on a person's passport truly is entered in order to best be able to identify that individual, then a person entering their self-reported sex identity, like has been done in the past, is a far more accurate means of identifying a person than a determination a doctor made at the person's birth. The doctor also determines one's height, weight, hair color, and eye color at birth but the passport application doesn't collect or include that information because its very possible that those have changed between the time the person was born and the time they (or someone on their behalf) is filling out a passport application. The same applies to sex compared to a person's assigned sex at birth, it can change. And if it can change, then the more recent data point is the best for identifying that individual.

The collection is not clear because the term "biological sex" and rigid binary response options pose confusion. Attempts to define it will invariably create edge cases, especially among those who were born intersex. How is a person supposed to fill out a form that only allows for M or F sex when its entirely possible they were assigned neither category by a doctor at their birth? People should not be prevented from obtaining a passport because of any aspect how they were born.

The undue burden of this proposal is immense. The burden of requiring a trans person to list their assigned sex at birth on their passport will affect their psychological well-being and safety as well as create administrative mismatches with the rest of their identity documents that will create further issues that could lead to detainment and difficulty getting into and out of the country. Requiring law-abiding trans citizens to list the incorrect sex on their passports will effectively "out" them repeatedly and sometimes in dangerous situations, particularly abroad.

I am strongly opposed to this proposal, and have loved ones who will be directly affected by the above issues. I hope that you take these concerns into consideration.