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Comments Received:

The changes proposed under Executive Order 14168 regarding passport gender markers are a considerable and unnecessary drain on government resources, both in administrative expenses and manpower. The process of updating federal systems to undo previously approved gender marker changes would require significant reprogramming, redesigning forms, and retraining staff, all funded by taxpayers. Additionally, the requirement to investigate and verify an applicant's original gender would involve retrieving birth records from state agencies that have already legally recognized gender changes. This not only adds an undue burden on already overwhelmed government offices but also infringes upon states' rights by overriding their authority to issue amended birth certificates. Moreover, enforcing a strict classification based on birth-assigned gender undermines the rights of transgender individuals to self-identify, which is a fundamental aspect of personal freedom. Redirecting government funds to reverse existing documentation—especially without any legitimate security or fraud concerns—sets a troubling precedent of bureaucratic overreach and represents a significant misallocation of federal resources.