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I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the DS-11 Passport Application, which would require applicants to disclose their "biological sex at birth" instead of their gender. This requirement is an unnecessary and discriminatory obstacle for transgender, nonbinary, and intersex individuals applying for a passport for the first time.

Forcing individuals to disclose the sex assigned at birth disregards the reality that many states already allow gender marker changes on official documents. This policy could lead to mismatches between IDs, putting people at risk of discrimination, employment issues, and restricted travel. The ability to select an accurate gender marker has existed without issue, and there is no justification for reversing this progress.

Also using the term "biological" sex is problematic, as the US government really only acknowledges XX and XY chromosomes, when there are also people born with 47XXY or 45X. There are over 30 conditions that can lead to someone being intersex, and many people either never know or learn later in life that their assigned sex at birth does not match what their chromosomes dictate.

I call on the State Department to reject this harmful rule and ensure all individuals can obtain passports reflecting their true identity.