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You're very busy, so I will keep this brief.

As an intersex US citizen, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the DS-82 Passport Renewal Form that would require applicants to list their "biological sex at birth" instead of their gender. This policy is unnecessary and harmful, especially for transgender, nonbinary, and intersex individuals who already face challenges when updating their accurate identification.

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.

For our trans brothers and sisters, the consequences could be devastating.

Forcing a mismatch between state IDs and passports will cause confusion, delays, and potential discrimination. It could also expose individuals to harassment when traveling or applying for jobs. The current self-attestation system has worked well and should remain established.

I urge the State Department to reconsider this change and ensure all individuals can renew their passports with the correct gender marker without facing additional barriers.