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Comments Received:

I urge you to reject this policy change. Every citizen deserves a U.S. passport that is consistent with their gender that accurately represents them in their physical appearance, social and professional lives. The current policy, as it has been for over 30 years, ensures all citizens have the right to safely travel, obtain employment, interact with law enforcement, and go about their daily lives without fear of harassment, undue scrutiny, and discrimination, and also assists with the predictable administration of public functions without confusion on the part of administrators. The policy change will unilaterally take away the right of trans and intersex citizens to obtain a passport that reflects who they are, a right they have had here in the United States for many decades, which is not only patently discriminatory and unconstitutional as it persecutes a vulnerable minority, but also will cause huge disturbances, confusion, and an immense economic cost burden in the administration of travel. It is a serious and unnecessary burden on all passport applicants to be asked for evidence of one's biological sex at birth, and a waste of government time and resources to require State Department employees to research this information. It will result in severe harm to all applicants, not only transgender people, because it opens the door for federal officials to question whether anyone's gender information aligns with one's biological sex at birth, regardless of whether a person is transgender or not. We rely on our federal government to be thoughtful, well-reasoned, and fair to all Americans, yet this new policy provides no thought, reason, or fairness. Instead, it relies on a non-scientific, non-fact based assertions to deny the existence of transgender citizens. The harm that will result from this policy is widespread and far-reaching, with unsupported claims to any prospective benefit.