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February 16, 2026

Chairman Tim Walberg
Committee on Education and Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6100

Dear Chairman Walberg,

I am writing in response to your letter dated January 28, 2026, and to accept your invitation to provide a briefing on local law enforcement coordination between the City of Evanston, Illinois, and Northwestern University during the April 2024 campus protests.

While the protest encampment at Northwestern was active, I remained in close contact with the Evanston Police Department, which continuously monitored the situation. At no point did Evanston Police determine that the protest posed a threat to students or to the broader Evanston community. To the contrary, department leadership expressed concern that forcibly clearing the encampment could escalate tensions and increase the risk of unrest.

I did not, and would not, direct the Evanston Police Department to disperse a protest or arrest protesters against the advice of department leadership. Doing so would unnecessarily endanger officers, improperly suppress constitutionally protected speech, and substitute political judgment for the expertise of public safety professionals.

As for the concern that I was "publicizing [my] refusal to provide the campus with support," I would point out that I never publicized my decision to decline Evanston Police Department support to Northwestern University. The matter became public only after your committee released the transcript of its interview with former President Schill last year, and has gained further media interest since your letter last month.

Antisemitism is a dangerous and growing problem in our country and around the world, and one that I have taken seriously throughout my career. We see troubling examples with increasing frequency, including the recent report regarding Customs and Border Protection Commander Gregory Bovino's antisemitic remarks to officials in Minnesota. In addition to its voluminous inquiries into universities, businesses, local municipalities, and other entities, I encourage the committee to also examine the rise of antisemitic rhetoric originating from within the federal government.

I look forward to coordinating with you and your staff to determine a time for this briefing, to be held as soon as practicable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Biss", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Biss