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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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April 28, 2025

Mr. Michael Schill  
President  
Northwestern University  
633 Clark Street  
Evanston, IL 60208

Dear President Schill:

In May 2024, the Committee on Education and Workforce (the Committee), as part of its broader examination of the rise of antisemitism on college campuses, opened an investigation into antisemitism at Northwestern University (Northwestern, the University).<sup>1</sup> As recounted in the Committee's May 10, 2024 letter to you and Board of Trustees Chairman Peter Barris, there has been a surge of antisemitic incidents at Northwestern, including assaults and harassment of Jewish students.<sup>2</sup> The Committee seeks to understand both this disturbing climate of antisemitism at Northwestern as well as the University's apparent failure to protect Jewish students, and therefore seeks to conduct a transcribed interview with you.<sup>3</sup> This investigation, including your transcribed interview, will inform the Committee's consideration of whether there is a need for legislative reforms to protect Jewish students on college campuses, including potential changes to Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*.<sup>4</sup> It is imperative that our nation's Jewish students are able to learn free from discrimination and harassment.

On May 23, 2024, you testified at the Committee's hearing entitled "Calling for Accountability: Stopping Antisemitic College Chaos." During your testimony, you indicated, among other things, that you would take the following steps to address antisemitism at Northwestern:

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<sup>1</sup> See Letter from Rep. Virginia Foxx, Chairwoman, H. Comm. on the Judiciary, *et al.*, to Michael Schill, President, Nw. Univ., *et al.* (May 10, 2024), [https://edworkforce.house.gov/uploadedfiles/northwestern\\_letter\\_final.pdf](https://edworkforce.house.gov/uploadedfiles/northwestern_letter_final.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> See *id.*

<sup>3</sup> See, e.g., *Northwestern University 2025 Report Card*, ADL, <https://www.adl.org/campus-antisemitism-report-card/northwestern-university?year=2024> (last visited Apr. 23, 2025).

<sup>4</sup> Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives authorizes the Committee to conduct oversight of all matters involving "education... generally" to inform potential legislation. Rules X.I (e)(6), X.II (3)(d), Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, 119th Cong. (Jan. 16, 2025), <https://perma.cc/345P-HY4F>.

- reconstitute a task force to combat antisemitism on campus and appoint to the task force faculty, staff, and administrators who are committed to fighting antisemitism;<sup>5</sup>
- revise the student conduct code;<sup>6</sup>
- enhance enforcement;<sup>7</sup>
- increase security;<sup>8</sup> and
- teach students about the dangers of antisemitism.<sup>9</sup>

You also stated that Northwestern was investigating allegations of violence and harassment directed against Jewish students, including that a Jewish student was assaulted, a Jewish student was verbally harassed and stalked, a Jewish student wearing a yarmulke was spat on, and a Jewish student was told to “go back to Germany and get gassed.”<sup>10</sup> Additionally, you testified that, while there was a disciplinary process for students who made violent threats against Jewish students,<sup>11</sup> to your knowledge no students had been expelled or suspended for antisemitic conduct since the Hamas terrorist attack of October 7, 2023.<sup>12</sup> Finally, you indicated that you did not have an exact figure of how many citations had been issued to student and non-student participants in Northwestern’s 2024 encampment.<sup>13</sup>

Since your testimony at the Committee’s May 23, 2024 hearing, despite Northwestern’s claims to the contrary, the Committee has not seen your commitments to discipline, enforcement, and security come to satisfactory fruition.<sup>14</sup> For example, as we have not yet received documentation to this effect, it remains unclear whether any students or faculty have been meaningfully disciplined in response to the repeated incidents of antisemitism at Northwestern, including the harassment and violence against Jewish students at Northwestern’s 2024 encampment. Indeed, Northwestern’s chapter of the anti-Zionist group Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP) recently hailed the fact that “[s]o far we have only seen a very small range of disciplinary notices. **Students charged up to this point have only been given warnings and disciplinary probations, both of which are largely insignificant**”<sup>15</sup> (emphasis in original).

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<sup>5</sup> See *Calling for Accountability and Stopping Antisemitic College Chaos: Hearing Before the H. Comm. On Educ. and the Workforce*, 118th Cong. 12, 30 (2024), <https://www.congress.gov/118/chrg/CHRG-118hhrg57137/CHRG-118hhrg57137.pdf>.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 12.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> See *Calling for Accountability: Stopping Antisemitic College Chaos: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Education and the Workforce* at 34–36, 118th Cong. (2024), <https://www.congress.gov/118/meeting/house/117258/documents/HHRG-118-ED00-Transcript-20240523.pdf>.

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 94.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 23.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* at 107-08.

<sup>14</sup> See University Statements, *Progress Report on Nw. Univ. Efforts to Combat Antisemitism*, Nw. Univ. (Mar. 31, 2025), <https://www.northwestern.edu/leadership-notes/statements/2025/progress-report-on-northwestern-university-efforts-to-combat-antisemitism.html>.

<sup>15</sup> Document on file with Committee. See also Jessica Costescu, *Northwestern SJP Chapter, Quoting PFLP Terrorists, Urges Members to ‘Build an Intifada’ and ‘Destroy Amerika’* (Apr. 9, 2025), <https://freebeacon.com/campus/northwestern-sjp-chapter-quoting-pflp-terrorists-urges-members-to-build-an-intifada-and-destroy-amerika/>.

Moreover, just this month, several buildings at Northwestern were vandalized during Passover with what you described as “antisemitic slogans and hate-filled language.”<sup>16</sup> One student group stated that this graffiti was “a direct threat to Jewish students’ safety and security at Northwestern.”<sup>17</sup> It has also recently been reported that Northwestern’s SJP chapter held a training session featuring materials that promote violence.<sup>18</sup> In addition, according to recent reporting, Northwestern’s mandatory anti-discrimination training questions the linkage between anti-Zionism and antisemitism and features unverified data from the Council on American-Islamic Relations that underplays incidents of antisemitism.<sup>19</sup>

As part of its continued investigation of antisemitism on our nation’s college campuses, including Northwestern, the Committee therefore seeks to conduct a transcribed interview with you. Your testimony regarding antisemitism at Northwestern, and the steps that the university has and has not taken to address antisemitism, will assist the Committee in determining both whether there is a need for legislative reforms to combat antisemitic discrimination and harassment and what shape such potential reforms should take.

Please contact my staff as soon as possible, and no later than a week from the receipt of this letter, to schedule this interview.

Should you have any questions, please contact Jenna Berger at [Jenna.Berger@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jenna.Berger@mail.house.gov) or 202-225-4527.

Sincerely,



Tim Walberg  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Workforce

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<sup>16</sup> Isaiah Steinberg, *et al.*, *NU investigates reported antisemitic graffiti outside University Hall, Kresge Hall*, The Daily Northwestern (Apr. 14, 2025), <https://dailynorthwestern.com/2025/04/14/campus/nu-facilities-management-removes-hateful-graffiti-outside-university-kresge-halls/>.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

<sup>18</sup> See Jessica Costescu, *Northwestern SJP Chapter; Quoting PFLP Terrorists, Urges Members to ‘Build an Intifada’ and ‘Destroy Amerika’* (Apr. 9, 2025), <https://freebeacon.com/campus/northwestern-sjp-chapter-quoting-pflp-terrorists-urges-members-to-build-an-intifada-and-destroy-amerika/>.

<sup>19</sup> See Jessica Costescu, *Northwestern University Mandatory Anti-Discrimination Training Pushes Unverified CAIR Data* (Feb. 24, 2025), <https://freebeacon.com/campus/northwestern-university-mandatory-anti-discrimination-training-pushes-unverified-cair-data/>.