

Testimony of Mr. Scott Miller
Nominee to be U.S. Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation and to the
Principality of Liechtenstein
U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member, distinguished Members of the Committee, I am grateful for the privilege of speaking with you today as the President's nominee to be the next United States Ambassador to both the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein.

I am grateful to President Biden and Secretary Blinken for their confidence in my ability to serve in this role and to work on behalf of our great country and to represent the interests of the American people. If confirmed by this Committee, serving as Ambassador would be the greatest honor of my life.

He won't enjoy me singling him out, but I am so proud to be joined today by my husband, Tim Gill. I would not be here without his support.

A lifetime of experience has prepared me for this moment. I worked as a banker and as a management consultant. I also joined my husband Tim as co-chair of the Gill Foundation where, together and with so many others, we have advocated for the full equality of all Americans. In our home state, we have devoted considerable effort to enhance the lives of our fellow Coloradans through STEM education, public broadcasting, and programs to fight food insecurity.

I'd like to take a moment to say that growing up as a shy kid on the Western Slope of the great state of Colorado, being in this remarkable place today would have been impossible to imagine. Indeed, that young boy too often felt, as many LGBTQ kids too often do, that there was no place for him.

Over the course of my career, I've learned the importance of nurturing friendships and building coalitions — and to view those with whom I may disagree today as future friends and partners tomorrow. If confirmed, I look forward to vigorously applying this principle to America's relationships with Switzerland and Liechtenstein, to the benefit of all three.

To that end, I'd like to outline four policy priorities that will guide my work as U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, if confirmed:

My top priority will be ensuring the safety and well-being of Americans in Switzerland and Liechtenstein, as well as of our broader mission community.

Two, to deepen ties and cooperation through the lens and application of our core values, including: support for democracy, respect for universal human rights, and the promotion of peace and security.

Three, to increase support for the United States and our policies through active engagement with both host governments and civil society, as well as through educational, cultural, and people-to-people ties and exchanges.

Four, to grow our already strong economic and commercial relationship to advance America's competitive advantage in both countries. I believe we have untapped potential to gain greater access for American products to the Swiss and Liechtenstein markets. If confirmed, I will work hard to realize that potential.

I am here today thanks to countless heroic Americans who dedicated their lives to ensuring that someone like me could grow up to enjoy all the promises and responsibilities of this wonderful country.

I want to pledge to this Committee and to the American people that, if confirmed, the security and vital national interests of the United States and its citizens would be my highest priority. I would work tirelessly to further deepen and enhance our bilateral relationships with Switzerland and Liechtenstein. And I would look for every opportunity to increase trade, foster development, and promote cultural exchanges and understanding between our nations.

I would pursue all this work shoulder to shoulder with the remarkable and talented U.S. Foreign Service officers and local embassy staff in Bern, who have already done so much to advocate on behalf of the United States, and who cannot be praised enough for their dedication and public service.

If confirmed, I look forward to proudly serving the United States with integrity, humility, and compassion.

Mr. Chairman, ranking member and all the members of the Committee – I thank you so much for the opportunity to testify today.

I am happy to answer any questions you have.

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