United States Senate Committee on Finance January 16, 2025 Hearing to Consider the Anticipated Nomination of Scott Bessent, of South Carolina, to be Secretary of the Treasury

Follow-up Question for the Record submitted to Scott Bessent from Senator Wyden.

Question 1:

In November 2024, the New York Times and other news outlets reported that Boris Epshteyn, a top advisor to President-elect Trump, allegedly requested payments from prospective political appointees to promote their candidacies for top positions within the Administration or for other purposes. Did you speak with Mr. Epshteyn about your candidacy for a position in the Administration at any time? If so, describe.

Did Mr. Epshteyn ever seek any payments from you for any purpose? If so, describe.

At any time did representatives for President-elect Trump discuss with you Mr. Epshteyn and the allegations cited above? If so, describe.

<u>Answer:</u> While I am aware of the reporting by the New York Times and other news outlets regarding alleged interactions between me and Mr. Epshteyn, for the avoidance of doubt, I have not and would never pay anyone in exchange for being nominated for any position in the government, including my nomination to serve as Secretary of the Treasury, nor has anyone asked of me for any such payment.