



For Immediate Release
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Biss Kicks Off Campaign With 150 Strong

WILMETTE—In front of over 150 enthusiastic volunteers, Daniel Biss—with the help of community leaders from throughout the district—launched his volunteer-driven campaign for the Democratic nomination for the 17th Legislative District of Illinois Sunday at the Mallinckrodt Center.

“I am so grateful for the support of genuine community leaders like Tim Gobat, Gina Lee, and Stacy Kapustina, which redoubles my commitment to serve my neighbors in this district.”

Gobat, a firefighter and paramedic in the City of Evanston, told the story of how on Saturday Biss suited up in full 40-pound firefighter uniform, joining firefighters from Evanston, Northfield, and Glenview in a controlled fire to learn what those heroes go through.

“I’m sure Daniel went home and went right to bed,” Gobat quipped. “I took a shower first,” Biss responded.

Gobat serves as Secretary and PAC Chairman for the Evanston Firefighters Local 742, and he and the members of his union met with Biss and made the decision to give their full support to Biss because of his dedication to political reform, his support for organized labor, and his passion for helping working families.

Lee, from Wilmette, told the story of how when Biss rang her doorbell during the 2008 campaign, they spent a half hour discussing her concerns. These include mathematics education, in which Biss has a keen interest, having been a mathematics professor at the University of Chicago and teacher at the North Lawndale College Preparatory High School, a charter school on Chicago's west side aimed at readying at-risk youth for college.

“I am proud to support Daniel because he showed to me a talent for solving the problems we have,” Lee said.

A social worker for more than a decade, Lee works at the YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago as the Coordinator of Client Services, Korean Domestic Violence Program.

A volunteer for Biss’s 2008 campaign where she ran new media youth outreach, Kapustina read at the kickoff from an article that she had written for her school newspaper about that experience. She said that she “had always been a cynic when it comes to the authenticity of politicians, but working with Daniel changed all that.”

Kapustina graduated from Glenbrook South High School and is now a student at Loyola University in Chicago.

Also speaking at the event were Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, who described Biss as “the perfect candidate” who “inspires me”; State Senator Jeff Schoenberg, who pledged his support for Biss because he “need[s] another strong, reliable, independent, and thoughtful ally at the State capitol”; and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Debra Shore, who thanked the crowd for choosing to participate in democracy and described Biss as an “honest, good person of integrity who is exactly what we need in Springfield.”

Biss is married to Karin Steinbrueck, a former Peace Corps volunteer who is currently working on her PhD in history at Northwestern University. They live in Evanston with their one-year-old son Elliot. They are members of Temple Beth Israel in Skokie.

For more information about Daniel Biss or his campaign for State Representative, please visit www.DanielBiss.com.

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