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 **Heller Praises $33.5 Million in Federal Funding for the Northern Nevada Veterans Home***Heller Secured Funding for the Facility in Recently- Signed Omnibus*

**RENO** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV), a senior member of the U.S. Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, today announced that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be directing $33.5 million for construction of the Northern Nevada Veterans Home. Heller helped secure this funding into the fiscal year 2018 omnibus measure, which President Trump recently signed into law.

Specifically, this funding comes from the VA’s State Home Construction Grant Program, which is critical to the completion of the [Northern Nevada Veterans Home](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2017/7/heller-attends-northern-nevada-veterans-home-groundbreaking). Under the omnibus, the program was funded $685 million, a significant increase in resources from last year. [Heller urged the Appropriations Committee last year to continue federal support for the state facilities](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/7f9f37b7-d38f-4e47-a963-a06b9e7a3ee0/05032017%20Cosign%20Letter%20to%20Appropriations%20re%20State%20Veterans%20Home%20Grant%20Program.pdf), arguing that they “serve the long-term needs of our country’s veterans.”

“Northern Nevada’s veterans deserve a home in their own community surrounded by their loved ones, and this funding will go a long way toward the completion of this facility,” **said Heller.** “I welcome the VA’s announcement today and remain thankful that my efforts to ensure continued federal support for these state veterans homes were successful. I look forward to continuing my work with the Governor, the Nevada Department of Veterans Services and the VA to ensure that the Northern Nevada Veterans Home receives the full support it needs.”

According to the Nevada Department of Veterans Services, the 102,000-square-foot-facility will house 96 beds and is expected to be completed in December 2018.

[Heller is a strong supporter of the new State Veterans Home in Sparks and has repeatedly urged the VA to fulfill its commitment to provide resources](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/26ca54ba-a1fb-40d7-aafd-b96ac72564ae/07142016%20Heller%20Letter%20to%20VA%20re%20State%20Home%20Grant%20Funding.pdf) because the current facility in Boulder City is not only at capacity, it is hundreds of miles away from communities across Northern Nevada.

[The omnibus also included two other priorities Heller fought for to help support Nevada’s 300,000 military veterans](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2018/3/heller-s-bill-to-expand-veterans-mental-health-services-in-government-funding-measure) – his bill to expand veterans’ mental health and combat veteran homelessness.

[Heller’s Veteran Urgent Access to Mental Health Care Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=4AE4659E-A7E9-472B-8FCF-31E7EC53DEBF) was rolled into the package and became law. The bill provides mental health treatment and services to veterans who were released from the military with an “other-than-honorable” discharge.

The government-funding measure also directed $1.7 billion for homeless assistance programs at the VA, including $340 million for the homeless supportive services for low-income veterans and families. It also included $40 million for new housing vouchers for homeless veterans.

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