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| **For Immediate Release:** | **Contact:**[Megan Taylor](mailto:Megan_Taylor@heller.senate.gov) |
| June 28, 2018 | 202-224-6244 |

**Heller Pushes His No Budget, No Pay Bill as Solution to Bipartisan, Bicameral Panel Tasked with Budget Reform**

*Joint Select Committee is Tasked with Recommending Budget Reforms to Congress by November 30th*

**WASHINGTON –** U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) pushed his [No Budget, No Pay Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=A9CB3CA3-2926-493F-8955-F6BEEFE63653) as a solution to the bipartisan, bicameral [Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform](https://budgetappropriationsprocessreform.house.gov/about), and he urged the panel to recommend his legislation to Congress as part of its suggested reforms to the budget and appropriations process. Heller’s No Budget, No Pay Act requires Members of Congress to pass a budget and related appropriations bills on time each year in order to receive pay.

Established by the Heller-backed Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, the Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform is comprised of a total of 16 members from the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. The panel is responsible for recommending significant reforms to our budget and appropriations process as well as legislative text in a report submitted to Congress by November 30, 2018. Yesterday, the select committee held a hearing to receive testimony from members in both chambers of Congress who will be suggesting their ideas to improve the budget process to the panel.

In written testimony submitted to the co-chairs of the Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform, Reps. Steve Womack (R-AR) and Nita Lowey (D-NY), Heller acknowledged that Congress has continually failed to agree on a budget and pass all individual appropriations bills on time under both Republican and Democrat control. “*While the reasons for this dysfunction may be complicated, the solution does not have to be*,” **Heller stated.**

When this Joint Select Committee was formed, Heller immediately wrote to every member of the Committee and explained how his No Budget, No Pay Act is the answer to our budget problems because the legislation would withhold pay from members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives if they fail to pass a bicameral budget resolution and all appropriations bills by the beginning of each fiscal year.

“*If Congress does not complete its core obligations, then its Members will not be paid. It’s just that simple. I’ve been fighting for the No Budget, No Pay Act my entire career in the U.S. Senate and I believe that through the Joint Select Committee’s effort we have a unique opportunity to finally push the No Budget, No Pay Act across the goal line and fix one of Washington’s biggest problems,”* **Heller wrote.**

**Heller’s written testimony is available below.**

*The Honorable Steve Womack*

*Co-Chair of the Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform*

*Washington, DC 20510*

*The Honorable Nita M. Lowey*

*Co-Chair of the Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform*

*Washington, DC 20510*

*Dear Co-Chair Womack and Co-Chair Lowey:*

*I write to you to implore you and your fellow members of the Joint Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations Process Reform to support and recommend the No Budget, No Pay Act (S.14) as a solution to fix Congress’ budget and appropriations process.  If this simple, no cost, bipartisan proposal were to be signed into law it would tell the American public that Congress is finally serious about doing its most fundamental duties.*

*I wanted to applaud the leadership in the Senate and House of Representative for moving appropriations bills though regular order this year and have begun consideration on the floor of both chambers.  As I have stated before, under both Republican and Democratic control, Congress has continually failed to agree on a budget and pass all individual appropriations bills on time.  Each party shares the blame for our current situation.  The entire reason this Joint Select Committee exists is because of a chronically broken fiscal process in Washington.  While the reasons for this dysfunction may be complicated, the solution does not have to be.*

*When this Joint Select Committee was formed I immediately wrote to every member of the Committee and explained how my No Budget, No Pay Act is the answer to our problems by requiring that the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives pass a bicameral budget resolution and all appropriations bills by the beginning of each fiscal year.  If Congress does not complete its core obligations, then its Members will not be paid.  It’s just that simple.  I’ve been fighting for the No Budget, No Pay Act my entire career in the U.S. Senate and I believe that through the Joint Select Committee’s effort we have a unique opportunity to finally push the No Budget, No Pay Act across the goal line and fix one of Washington’s biggest problems.*

*I stand ready to work with all members of the Committee and appreciate the opportunity to advocate on behalf of Nevadans and all Americans who want Washington to get back to work for them.*

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