

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **For Immediate Release:** | **Contact:** [Megan Taylor](mailto:Megan_Taylor@heller.senate.gov) |
| June 21, 2017 | 202-224-6244 |

**FAA Reauthorization Includes Significant Wins for Nevada**

**Six Heller Provisions Added To Legislation**

**Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) announced that the upcoming Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization legislation will include several provisions that will benefit Nevada. There are six Heller proposals which will boost Nevada’s travel and tourism economy, help veterans find employment, and promote the state’s drone industry.

“I am encouraged by our success; the provisions included in the FAA reauthorization will directly benefit the state of Nevada,” **said Heller.** “This legislation includes several proposals that will help veterans find employment, bolster Nevada’s drone industry, as well as promote safe and efficient travel for tourists and Nevadans across the state. I look forward to supporting this legislation as it makes its way through the Senate, and I thank the Senate Commerce Committee for its work on these important issues.”

[Earlier this month, Heller outlined several proposals to Commerce Committee Chairman John Thune (R-SD)](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/0a10111e-f876-4129-a2ef-4c19eaedb983/06092017%20Heller%20Letter%20to%20Chairman%20Thune%20on%20FAA.pdf). This includes provisions that will promote the states already robust drone industry: extending Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) test sites, allowing for small UAS package delivery, and authorizing beyond line-of-sight operations; provisions that will allow airports to better serve travelers: authorizing the Small Community Air Service Development (SCASD) Program eligibility update and allowing Intermodal Access Projects through the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC).

[Recently, Heller spoke with Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Elaine Chao at a U.S. Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee hearing](https://youtu.be/lbAE4sLjeTc) about the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization legislation and how it can support Nevada’s drone economy.

The FAA reauthorization also includes additional Heller-backed proposals such as the Veterans Employment Through FAA, which will encourage the FAA to consider veterans for employment opportunities; as well as the Tourism Stakeholders Amendment, designed to give Nevada stakeholders like the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, and the Elko Convention and Visitors Authority a seat at the table for future discussions regarding tourism and infrastructure at the FAA.

*###*

[cid:image003.png@01D2E8DF.184064B0](http://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Senator-Dean-Heller/325751330177)[cid:image004.png@01D2E8DF.184064B0](http://twitter.com/SenDeanHeller)[cid:image005.png@01D2E8DF.184064B0](http://www.youtube.com/user/SenDeanHeller)