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**Heller Statement on the President’s State of the Union Address**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**– Tonight, U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) welcomed President Donald Trump’s first State of the Union address.

“It’s morning again in America,” **said Heller**. “During his first year in office, President Trump sharply changed direction away from the failed policies of the past that are accountable for years of anemic economic growth and too many Nevadans living paycheck to paycheck. Thanks to the President’s leadership this past year, the economy grew at the fastest pace in two years, more than two million jobs were created, and the unemployment rate is the lowest it’s been since 2001. We strengthened our economy by cutting Washington red tape that has been holding back our job creators, and the President signed into law the first major overhaul of our tax code in decades. Tax relief has already had a positive impact on thousands of Nevadans. For example, South Point Hotel Casino & Spa doubled bonuses for 2,300 workers, and the once-stalled Fontainebleau resort in Las Vegas committed to resuming construction on the project, which is expected to create approximately 10,000 new jobs in southern Nevada.”

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act requires employers to implement the bill’s new withholding tables by mid-month, and every income category of Nevada’s roughly 1.4 million individual tax return filers is expected to receive a tax cut come February. Since the legislation was signed into law, more than 240 businesses around the country have announced higher wages, special bonuses, and plans to create more jobs and to re-invest in America rather than overseas. [Nevadans working for American Airlines, AT&T, JetBlue, Sinclair Broadcasting Group, Southwest Airlines, and Wells Fargo are expected to receive a special $1,000 bonus](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=8AD09848-1691-47C6-93F0-5202A10DB08A). Additionally, [around 8,700 Nevadans who work for Wal-Mart are expected to benefit from its pledge to increase wages, hand out bonuses, and expand maternity and parental leave benefits](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=8AD09848-1691-47C6-93F0-5202A10DB08A). During a recent TeleForum with NFIB/Nevada, roughly 9 in 10 Nevada business owners who responded to an informal poll said they plan to take action that includes increasing workers’ wages and investing in their companies as a direct result of tax reform.

**Heller added,**“From improving our aging infrastructure to enhancing our national security, tonight the President outlined his priorities that put Nevada – and America – first. I look forward to continue working with this Administration to fix our failing roads and bridges, rebuild our military, address our broken immigration system, and help Nevadans get ahead. I’m optimistic about what we can accomplish in 2018.”

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