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| http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/7/74/US-Senate-UnofficialAltGreatSeal.svg/2000px-US-Senate-UnofficialAltGreatSeal.svg.png   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **For Immediate Release:** | **Contacts:** | | May 5, 2015 | [Neal A. Patel](mailto:neal_patel@heller.senate.gov)/[Michawn Rich](mailto:michawn_rich@heller.senate.gov) 202-224-6244 (Heller) | |  | [John Rizzo](mailto:John_Rizzo@casey.senate.gov) 202-228-6367 (Casey) |   **Media Advisory:**  **Tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. ET: Senators Hold Press Conference to Unveil 2015 VA Backlog Report and Legislation**  *VA Backlog Working Group Chairs Heller and Casey join Senators*  *Moran, Manchin, and Toomey to press case for action*  **(Washington, DC) –** Duringa press conference on Capitol Hill **tomorrow, Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. ET**,U.S. Senators Dean Heller (R-NV) and Bob Casey (D-PA), along with Senators Jerry Moran (R-KS), Joe Manchin (D-WV), and Pat Toomey (R-PA), will unveil legislation designed to further reduce the backlog of veteran disability claims. The Senators will also release the VA Backlog Working Group 2015 Report.  **Who:** U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV)  U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA)  U.S. Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS)  U.S. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV)  U.S. Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA)  **What:** Senators introduce legislation, present 2015 Report outlining what actions must be taken to fully transition the VA to a 21st century benefits delivery system  **When: Tomorrow, Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. ET**  **Where:** Senate Radio and TV Gallery (S-325)  U.S. Capitol Building  **Note**: Please RSVP to [michawn\_rich@heller.senate.gov](mailto:michawn_rich@heller.senate.gov)  **Background**:  In July of 2013, Senators Heller and Casey announced the formation of the [VA Backlog Working Group](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=2daa6da5-8c7a-447d-951a-c03e9f1f11e9). The purpose of the Working Group was to provide a better understanding of the VA claims process and a forum for lawmakers, veterans, and VSOs to tackle the disability claim backlog. The report outlined the history of the backlog, and recommended legislative solutions to bring the system into the 21st century.  Since the introduction of the VA Claims Backlog Working Group’s 2014 Report, the VA and Congress have implemented many of the recommendations proposed in the report and [the legislation](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/6ce07775-9d03-4da4-a81d-f1220280163d/VA%20Backlog%20Legislation%20%28FINAL%29.pdf) Heller and Casey introduced. However, the senators have recognized more changes are needed to create a system that can withstand surges in claims without generating another backlog in the future.  ### |