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 **Heller, Tester Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Extend Burial Rights to Veterans’ Families**
*Two Bipartisan Bills to Allow Family Members to Lay in Rest with Veterans Interred in Tribal, State Veterans’ Cemeteries*

 **Washington, D.C.** – U.S. Senators Dean Heller (R-NV) and Jon Tester (D-MT) introduced bipartisan legislation to ensure veterans can be respectfully laid to rest alongside their spouses and children.

While national and state veterans’ cemeteries allow immediate family members to receive memorial headstones alongside their loved ones, the benefit only extends to family members who passed away after 2006 and does not extend to family members of tribal veterans’ cemeteries. The Senators’ bipartisan legislation extends this eligibility to more spouses and children, as well as to all tribal veterans’ cemeteries.

“A veteran’s final resting place serves as a permanent reminder that the freedoms and liberties Nevadans enjoy are because of the very selfless sacrifice of those who have answered our nation’s call to serve,” **said Heller, a senior member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee.** “As a strong supporter of ensuring veterans and their families can access the benefits and care they’ve earned, I’m proud to work with Senator Tester on these commonsense, bipartisan bills that will allow families to be laid to rest alongside their veteran family members. I’m hopeful Congress will approve these pieces of legislation swiftly and send it to the President’s desk to be signed into law.”

“A veterans’ headstone is an eternal testament to ‎bravery, service and sacrifice,” **said Tester, ranking member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee**. “Veterans have earned this right, but no family should be forced to choose between honoring their loved one’s service or resting in peace together. This legislation does right by veterans who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, and their loved ones.”‎

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