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| cid:image001.jpg@01D2BE81.52326A20   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **For Immediate Release:** | **Contact:** [Megan Taylor](mailto:Megan_Taylor@heller.senate.gov) | | April 27, 2017 | 202-224-6244 |     **ICYMI: Heller to Congress: Do your Job!**  *Heller Floor Speech Highlights No Budget No Pay Act*    **Washington, D.C.** – Today on the Senate floor, U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) urged his colleagues to support his No Budget No Pay Act, and show the country that Washington, D.C. will pass a budget and finally stop kicking the can down the road. As Congress is once again faced with a possible shut down and another short term spending bill— absent of any long-term solution to the nation’s fiscal woes, Heller knows what Nevada and the rest of the country knows: Washington needs to do its job. Click [HERE](https://youtu.be/Bj-1ghnFqlU) or below to watch his speech.    [Click [here](https://youtu.be/Bj-1ghnFqlU) or above to watch]    **Remarks as prepared for delivery:**  “As we approach yet another deadline to continue funding for the government I rise to speak today regarding my frustration and disappointment that Congress is once again kicking the can down the road.  “I’m frustrated that I keep having to have this same conversation with my colleagues, and I’m disappointed in the lack of responsibility of everyone here in Washington, D.C. to do their job.  “Washington, D.C. is the only place I can think of where people believe it is ok to not do their job, miss their deadline, make up a new deadline, and then repeat that process each year.  “I’m upset that I have to continually remind everyone of Congress’s most basic responsibility to pass a budget and all of its appropriations bills on time. It seems like Members of Congress now depend on the countdown clock on the bottom of every news channel to remind them to do their job.  “Here we are four months into 2017, and we still haven’t completed the appropriations process that was supposed to be done half a year ago. If that is not bad enough we only have 15 legislative weeks left to finish funding for the next fiscal year. My colleagues, we are setting ourselves up for failure.  “Washington is a consequence-free zone, and that’s why I will continue to advocate for my No Budget, No Pay Act.  “I have personally never seen Congress pass all 12 appropriations bills on time and on its own without an Omnibus or a CR-Omnibus. Regardless of who is in the majority or minority, my No Budget, No Pay legislation says if Members of Congress do not pass an annual, concurrent, bipartisan budget resolution and all twelve spending bills on time each year, then they should not get paid. Let me repeat that last part – if Congress fails to pass all twelve spending bills on time each year, then they should not get paid.  “The American public is just as frustrated as I am. Since I’ve introduced No Budget, No Pay, I’ve been getting so much positive support for this idea. Patricia from Fernley, Nevada wrote to me to say No Budget, No Pay is “long overdue.” Dorothy from Henderson, Nevada wrote to me and said No Budget, No Pay is “a wonderful solution.” And just last week speaking in Reno, Nevada I was asked when Congress is going to finally pass No Budget, No Pay.  “Until No Budget, No Pay is passed into law, I don’t see any other way to motivate Members of Congress to do their job and avoid these Continuing Resolutions in the future.  “I cannot support a CR that just boots our problems to another day without enacting the principles outlined in No Budget, No Pay.  “There are important issues that need to be addressed through the appropriations process. For my home state of Nevada we’re looking at proposals from this new Administration to cut funding to vitally important programs such as the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) and the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) programs.  “While these programs may not mean much to some of my colleagues for Nevada they’re vitally important to ensuring economic viability and competitiveness for the state.  Moreover, Nevada has been good stewards of these dollars by utilizing them for job creating projects within my state.  ‘By taking up individual appropriations bills on and engaging in debate on programs important to particular agencies, members have the opportunity to fight for priorities important to their state.  “And right now I’m fighting to fund these programs.  “And sometimes this fight needs to be ensure certain programs are not funded because they are a waste of taxpayer dollars, like Yucca Mountain. I cannot say it enough times to my colleagues, Congress should not provide any funding to this failed project that has already wasted so many taxpayer dollars.  “Nevada will not be a federally subsidized national nuclear waste dump – plain and simple.  “Without exercising the “power of the purse” which my No Budget No Pay legislation ensures, we will all be right back here in a week, a month or several months making the same speeches and taking the same votes.  “I would say to any of my colleagues who are tired of these Continuing Resolutions, regardless of what specific issues they are fighting for, to support No Budget, No Pay. I believe the Congress can work again but it will take some accountability like No Budget, No Pay to get us there.”    ###    [cid:image003.png@01D2BE81.52326A20](http://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Senator-Dean-Heller/325751330177)[cid:image004.png@01D2BE81.52326A20](http://twitter.com/SenDeanHeller) [cid:image005.png@01D2BE81.52326A20](http://www.youtube.com/user/SenDeanHeller) |