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**In Case You Missed It: President Signed into Law Spending Bill with Three Heller Provisions**

*Heller Measures Will Improve Veteran Employment, Promote STEM Education, and Support Pregnant Women and Infants*

**WASHINGTON** – In case you missed it, President Trump last week signed into law the bipartisan, bicameral Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill (H.R. 6157), which [includes three provisions authored by U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV)](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=ED1E35C2-2683-4A52-996F-BDEF98C6B972https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=ED1E35C2-2683-4A52-996F-BDEF98C6B972). Specifically, Heller’s provisions will help Nevada’s veterans find jobs in the private sector, promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in Nevada’s schools, and provide support to pregnant women and their infants. This package also funds the government through December 7, 2018, providing much needed funding certainty.

This marks the second time in recent weeks that Congress has sent funding bills on time and through regular order to the President’s desk for signature. Recently, [Heller joined the President in Las Vegas as he signed into law](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=6CF96D13-0733-4ECD-B50C-8837EC70AE9C) the Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill (H.R. 5895), which includes Heller’s key provisions designed to support Nevada’s homeless veterans and increase accountability at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for veteran caregivers.

“For years, I have advocated for regular order in the appropriations process, which is why I am thrilled that the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives were finally able to come together and get two major spending bills on the President’s desk,” **said Heller.** “This appropriations bill signed by the President provides much-needed certainty to our military and funds more than half of the government’s discretionary budget. I appreciate the President’s commitment to fixing the appropriations process, and this bill is proof that when Congress gets things done on time, we function better. Not only does this legislation provide the largest pay raise for our troops in almost a decade, it also includes three of my bipartisan provisions, one that will ensure our nation’s service members have the tools they need to successfully reenter the civilian workforce, and another that encourages STEM programs in Nevada’s schools. On top of that, this funding package includes my legislation to help mothers struggling with addiction. Whether it’s for our veterans or Nevada’s children, I will continue my bipartisan work in the Senate and support a budget process that functions on time.”

Heller, along with his colleague U.S. Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), secured a provision to ensure up to $3.5 million is available to carry out a pilot program on apprenticeships for service members transitioning entering the civilian workforce. Heller also worked with U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) on legislation that requires the Department of Education to assess how the agency is coordinating with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) to promote STEM programs that benefit our nation’s elementary and high school students.

This bill also includes a bipartisan amendment Heller authored with Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) that will strengthen the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) efforts to leverage birth defects surveillance systems to improve its ability to monitor the occurrence of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), a withdrawal condition often caused by use of opioids in pregnant women. Because of this devastating withdrawal effect on babies, this provision is key to helping improving health outcomes for mothers and their newborns.

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