Press Release:

U.S. Senator Dean Heller

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**Heller Cosponsors Immigration Reform Legislation for Highly-Skilled Workers**

**(Washington, D.C.) –** Today, U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) announced his support as an original cosponsor for the Immigration Innovation (I2) Act of 2013. This legislation, which was introduced today by Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and a bipartisan group of Senators, addresses a growing shortage of highly-skilled workers in the United States.

“This legislation takes an important step towards reforming our immigration system by addressing the shortage of visas and employment-based green cards for immigrants with specialized skills in technology and science. We must find a way to allow the best and brightest workers remain in our country so they can continue to contribute through innovation and education. While I’m pleased to see the Senate working together on a bipartisan set of principles for immigration reform, this is legislation that the Senate can act on immediately,” said Senator Dean Heller.

This bipartisan bill increases the number of temporary work visas and employment-based green cards for foreign workers, and streamlines the process required to acquire them. It is specifically aimed at workers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math, among others. Individuals who study in these fields often apply for temporary work visas or employment-based green cards after they finish their graduate studies to work in the United States. Existing labor laws within the immigration process already require employers to fully demonstrate that no U.S. workers are unnecessarily displaced.

The full text of the legislation is attached to this email.

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