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**In Case You Missed It: Heller Bill Demands Transparency, Accountability from the VA**

**Washington, D.C. –** Media outlets recently highlighted legislation authored by U.S. Senators Dean Heller (R-NV) and Joe Manchin (D-WV) that stops the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) from hiding medical mistakes made by providers in the Veterans Health Administration. The bipartisan [VA Provider Accountability Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=A161109E-42C5-4CBF-B2D4-923E9B6D3697), S.2107, was introduced last week following a shocking USA Today investigation revealed the VA has for years repeatedly buried and concealed poor care and mistakes made by its medical workers.

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[**Report of VA burying medical errors spurs Heller, Manchin bill**](https://www.reviewjournal.com/news/politics-and-government/report-of-va-burying-medical-errors-spurs-heller-manchin-bill/)

Las Vegas Review-Journal

*The bill from Heller, a member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, and Manchin would require the VA to report such mistakes to the National Practitioner Data Bank as well as state licensing boards, and prevent the VA from settling with fired employees as a way to conceal the mistakes. “The investigation’s findings are downright shameful, and we need action immediately to ensure that the VA does not hide medical mistakes or inadequate care,” Heller said in a statement. “Our legislation will make sure of it by holding the VA’s feet to the fire so that the veterans the agency exists to serve have trust in their caretakers.”*



[**Senators author bill forcing VA to report more problem medical providers, faster**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2017/11/09/senators-author-bill-forcing-va-report-problem-providers-requiring-more-faster-reporting-problem-va/846269001/)

USA Today

*The bill, co-sponsored by Sens. Dean Heller, R-Nev., and Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., would also require the VA to report discipline within 30 days to state medical boards and bar the agency from purging negative records from clinicians’ personnel files as part of severance deals. “The investigation’s findings are downright shameful, and we need action immediately to ensure that the VA does not hide medical mistakes or inadequate care,” said Heller, who is a member of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee along with Manchin.*

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[**Heller bipartisan bill would protect vets from VA provider mistakes**](https://riponadvance.com/stories/heller-bipartisan-bill-protect-vets-va-provider-mistakes/)

Ripon Advance

*U.S. Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV) on Thursday introduced the bipartisan VA Provider Accountability Act, bipartisan legislation to prohibit the U.S. Department of Veterans’ Affairs (VA) from concealing its providers’ medical mistakes. “It is our responsibility to stand up for those who put their lives on the line for this country and provide them with the world class medical care they expect and deserve,” said Heller, a senior member of the U.S. Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee.*

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