|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **For Immediate Release:** | **Contact:** Neal A. Patel/Michawn Rich |
| January 20, 2016 | 202-224-6244 |

**Heller’s Push to Raise Gaming Thresholds Yields Results****(Washington, DC)**– United States Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) issued the following statement after the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) announced it would favorably raise the reporting thresholds for gaming winnings derived from bingo, slot machine game play, and keno. Heller argued for a raise in the threshold to help both lower labor costs and prevent loss of business revenue to Nevada’s gaming industry. In addition, Heller urged the IRS to update the reporting threshold amount to reflect a number adjusted for today’s world. The last time the amount was adjusted was 1977. “It’s about time the thresholds for winnings for players of bingo, slot machine play, and keno were increased. I urged the IRS to update the previous thresholds last April due to the fact after almost forty years of remaining untouched, I felt they were outdated. These new guidelines issued by the IRS reflect a more accurate dollar amount in today’s world. The changes set to take place will benefit Nevadans and ensure Nevada remains American’s gaming capital,” said **Senator Dean Heller.** **BACKGROUND**Senator Heller’s letter to IRS Commissioner John Koskinen from last year may be found [here](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=d8d6dedf-0523-421c-8f3c-58c0fe479ce8).During a Senate Finance Committee last summer, Senator Heller again [expressed concern](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2015/6/heller-expresses-concern-over-newly-proposed-irs-gaming-regulations-and-searches-for-answers-on-how-to-protect-nevadans-tax-payer-data) over the newly proposed IRS gaming regulations directly to Commissioner Koskinen. ###http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/vendor/_skins/heller/images/newsletter/icon_fb.png http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/vendor/_skins/heller/images/newsletter/icon_tw.png http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/vendor/_skins/heller/images/newsletter/icon_yt.png |