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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **For Immediate Release:** | **Contact:** [Neal A. Patel](mailto:neal_patel@heller.senate.gov)/[Michawn Rich](mailto:michawn_rich@heller.senate.gov) | | October 22, 2015 | 202-224-6244 |   **Heller: Today, President Obama Got it Wrong**  *President vetoes legislation to support our troops and Heller’s amendment to*  *allow service members to carry personal firearms on military bases*  **(Washington, DC)**– Today, **President Barack Obama vetoed H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (NDAA). Included in the NDAA was U.S. Senator Dean Heller’s** amendment to give military base commanders the authority to allow service members to carry personal firearms on base for their personal protection and force protection. The NDAA also included policies to support our military troops and their families, as well as authorization for the resources our military needs to combat ISIS and threats around the world. Following President Obama’s veto, Senator Heller issued this statement:  “Maintaining military readiness is a must, and no soldier should be placed in harm’s way without the proper resources. Day after day America’s service members make tremendous sacrifices on our behalf. The least we can do is provide the tools they need to protect themselves at home and abroad,” said **Senator Dean Heller**. “When President Obama is right, I will support him. When President Obama is wrong, I won’t support him. Today, President Obama got it wrong.”  **Background:**  Senator Heller has been [adamant](https://soundcloud.com/senator-dean-heller/heller-seeks-to-allow-service-members-to-carry-firearms-on-bases-radkxnt-07-21-2015-183153) about protecting our nation’s service men and women by giving military base commanders the authority to allow service members to carry personal firearms on base for their personal protection and force protection.  In June, he filed [his amendment](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/9f181cad-6973-477b-ad4d-4ceb070eefa4/Conceal%20Carry%20Amendment.pdf) during the Senate’s consideration of the NDAA. In addition, Senator Heller introduced [stand-alone legislation](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/476ad1df-4d6b-423f-b515-3f012beb3824/Conceal%20Carry%20on%20Bases%20-%20Stand%20Alone%20Legislation.pdf) to address this issue critical to the safety of our nation’s service members.  In July, Senator Heller sent a [letter](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/74686ed9-ceb8-4529-baab-bf1f1c7bd6a6/Letter%20to%20Conferees%20re%20Conceal%20Carry%20on%20Bases%207.21.15.pdf) to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Senate and House Armed Services Committees, requesting that the NDAA conferees include his amendment. In September, the conferees announced that Senator Heller’s amendment [would be included in the final NDAA](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=d1f10bc9-798b-4eb2-9ed9-9184dae1ed0b).  Unfortunately, today, President Obama vetoed the NDAA.  ###  [http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/vendor/_skins/heller/images/newsletter/icon_fb.png](http://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Senator-Dean-Heller/325751330177) [http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/vendor/_skins/heller/images/newsletter/icon_tw.png](http://twitter.com/SenDeanHeller) [http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/vendor/_skins/heller/images/newsletter/icon_yt.png](http://www.youtube.com/user/SenDeanHeller) |