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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) | | June 24, 2015 | 202-224-6244 |   **Heller’s I-11 Extension Passes Committee**  **(Washington, DC)**– Today, the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee unanimously passed the [*Developing a Reliable and Innovative Vision for the Economy Act*](http://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Files.View&FileStore_id=ed58c727-1911-407e-af74-936f80ccc563) (DRIVE Act). Included in the legislation was U.S Senator Dean Heller’s bill to extend the future Interstate 11 (I-11) from Las Vegas through the State of Nevada to Interstate 80 (I-80). Following committee passage, Heller offered this statement:  “Today is a good day for Nevada as we are now one step closer to completing the I-11 extension,” said **Senator Dean Heller**. “It was certainly great to see my colleagues from both sides of the aisle agree an extension of I-11 through Nevada will provide the economic and trade development our state deserves. While we still have more hurdles to clear in order to push this over the finish line, I am confident we can make this a reality.”  **Background:**  Heller’s legislation, [introduced in March](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=f0b7befb-61f2-44d1-ab0d-be49ae502e2a), ensures the future I-11 is connected to Northern Nevada, giving it a key role as an international trade route. Specifically, the *Intermountain West Corridor Development Act of 2015* (S. 842) provides both Arizona’s and Nevada’s Departments of Transportation the flexibility to develop a Northern Nevada connectivity corridor and a Southern Arizona connectivity corridor as part of the I-11 effort. This full north-to-south, Canada-to-Mexico interstate system is critical for our nation’s mobility, economy, and national defense. An in-depth look at the legislation, including a map, is available [HERE](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=f0b7befb-61f2-44d1-ab0d-be49ae502e2a).  Last year, Senator Heller urged Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx to support the designation of I-11 from Las Vegas to Northern Nevada. In response, [Secretary Foxx committed to working with Heller to help secure this designation.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZI1isB5n_KE)  ###  [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) |