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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 17, 2015 | 202-224-6244 |   **Heller Amendment Delaying Sage-Grouse Listing for 10 Years Passes Senate**  **(Washington, DC)**– Today, Senator Dean Heller’s (R-NV) amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which delays listing the Greater Sage Grouse for 10 years, passed the U.S. Senate. The amendment allows states to implement their conservation plans to protect military readiness, allow robust economic development, and support the survival of the bird.  “Today, with the passing of my amendment, the Senate took an important step towards ensuring the sage grouse does not make an appearance on the Endangered Species List,” said **Senator Dean Heller**. “Nevada already has a conservation plan in place to limit threats to the sage grouse. Before the federal government jumps in with its overly restrictive management plans and alters our Western way of life, our state deserves a chance to prove success. No doubt, Nevada knows what works best for our state – not bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.”  **Background:**  Last month, the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture released final environmental reviews for proposed land use plans drastically changing the way millions of acres of public lands in 10 states across the West are managed. These proposed plans place strict limitations on the access to nearly 17 million acres of federal land in Nevada alone. Heller’s amendment prevents those restrictions from being finalized and allows the Nevada Sage Grouse Ecosystem Council’s Plan to be implemented.  ###  [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) |