

**For Immediate Release:** Contact: Chandler Smith

June 19, 2013 202-224-6244

**Heller Amendment to Include Nevada in Southern Border Security Commission Passes Senate**

*Heller Sponsors First Republican Amendment Adopted on Senate Floor*

**(Washington, D.C.) –** Today, the U.S. Senate agreed to U.S. Senator Dean Heller’s (R-NV) amendment (#1227) to include the southwestern state of Nevada on the Southern Border Security Commission. The amendment, which passed with bipartisan support, marks the first Republican-sponsored amendment to S. 744 voted on and accepted by the full Senate.

“I’m pleased that both Democrats and Republicans have joined me to ensure the Southern Border Security Commission is as fully representative as possible. If the federal government fails to gain control of the borders, then the states most affected by that failure should be able to play a role in fixing the problem. By having a seat at the table, Nevada can make recommendations based on its unique experiences and location so the United States can finally solve the enduring problem of border security,” said Senator Dean Heller.

Heller’s amendment ensures that the Southern Border Security Commission, which is created in the underlying bill, is fully representative of issues affecting southern border and southwestern states. Although Nevada is not contiguous to the southern border, its current demographics and state issues are reflective of other southern border states.

###