

**For Immediate Release:** Contact:

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**Heller Fights for Nevadans in Senate Budget**

**(Washington, DC)** – Today, U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) laid out his priorities for Nevada through various amendments to the FY2016 Budget Resolution (S. Con. Res. 11). Heller’s amendments are designed specifically to better the Silver State and enhance the quality of Nevadans’ lives. After filing each amendment, Heller offered this statement:

“I have filed several amendments to this year’s budget, ranging from infrastructure and tourism, to medical care at VA facilities, to protecting our way of life in Nevada with the support of the Second Amendment,” said **Senator Dean Heller**. “These amendments take the needs of Nevadans into consideration and make them a national priority. I look forward to working with my colleagues in order to make them a reality.”

Senator Heller filed eight amendments to the budget, which include:

**Heller Amendment Relating to I-11 (#453)** – This amendment prioritizes federal investments in infrastructure projects that improve the safe, secure, and efficient movement of people and goods through the U.S. to create jobs and spur economic development, such as the I-11 corridor.

**Heller Amendment Relating to Sage Grouse (#452)** – This amendment orders the Department of the Interior to enter into state conservation plans with each of the eleven states with sage grouse populations. State plans, like the one formulated by Nevada’s Sagebrush Ecosystem Council, should be given the opportunity to show results before the federal government makes a listing decision.

**Heller Amendment Relating to the VA Backlog (#457)** – This amendment states that bonuses for certain Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) executives should be prohibited until the backlog of veterans’ disability claims is eliminated.

**Heller Amendment Relating to Female Veterans** **(#456)** – This amendment helps ensure VA medical facilities properly meet the needs of women veterans by taking into account safety, privacy, and dignity.

**Heller Amendment Relating to the Second Amendment (#454)** – This amendment protects law-abiding American citizens’ Second Amendment rights and prohibits the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives from reclassifying ammunition primarily intended for sporting purposes.

**Heller Amendment Relating to Eliminating the Rape Kit Backlog (#455)** – This amendment prioritizes the elimination of the rape kit backlog to hold perpetrators of sexual assault accountable and help prevent these despicable crimes from happening in the first place.

**Heller Amendment Relating to Tourism (#466) –** This amendment encourages policy reforms to facilitate additional international and domestic travel and tourism in the United States, such as improving the efficiency of aviation security and the U.S visa system.

Additionally, Heller offered a **Sense of the Senate (#451)** whichsays that if Congress does not pass a budget and all appropriations bills on time each fiscal year, then they should not receive pay. This is consistent with Heller’s [No Budget, No Pay Act](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=5f8409c1-10c2-47c3-b683-3ad052149ee2) (S. 39), which was the first piece of legislation he introduced this Congress.

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