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**Heller Announces Nevada Rural Housing Authority to Receive $71,718 Grant to Help Low-Income Nevadans with Home Repairs**

*Funding Will Go Toward Eligible Households in Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, or Storey Counties*

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) today applauded the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for awarding $71,718.23 to the Nevada Rural Housing Authority through the Rural Development program. This funding will be directed toward various home improvement projects for eligible low-income residents, or households below the 200 percent poverty level.

“I welcome the Department of Agriculture’s announcement that the Nevada Rural Housing Authority will receive $71,718 to help Nevadans who are struggling to get by and keep up with the costs of home repairs,” **said Heller.** “Whether it is my work to successfully double the child tax credit from $1,000 to $2,000 per child or my legislation to increase affordable housing options for Nevada’s seniors, I am always fighting to advance legislation that will help Nevada families get ahead. As the fifth most bipartisan member of the U.S. Senate, I will continue working toward commonsense, bipartisan solutions to address Nevada’s affordable housing crisis and provide low-income Nevadans with the support they need to take care of their families, secure a better job, and prepare for their futures.”

Heller has championed various initiatives that aim to increase affordable housing opportunities throughout the state. Recently, [Heller introduced the Seniors Affordable Housing Tax Credit Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=8B1F2578-1898-4A95-9309-DE3E6F414D1E), legislation he authored to incentivize housing owners and developers to rent to low-income seniors. This proposed legislation would create a tax credit program that allocates credits to states, which, in turn, will be awarded to owners and developers who choose to rent their properties to low-income seniors. In July, Heller joined a group of senators to introduce the [bipartisan Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Act](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2018/7/heller-group-of-bipartisan-senators-introduce-bill-to-create-affordable-housing-task-force), which seeks to better understand and respond to America’s affordable housing crisis by creating a bipartisan affordable housing task force.

Earlier this month, [Heller also fought for the housing needs of Nevada’s student veterans](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=ECCAEBC7-0C1F-4AF8-B776-3DF690B4D4AD) after learning that a number of monthly stipends provided by the VA to assist veterans with housing costs have not been provided. Under the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill, veterans are ensured stipends so as to safeguard their ability to access housing while attending school using their earned benefits. In Heller’s [letter](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/_cache/files/d9908965-aebf-4abe-b5ca-ee9d32e0b41a/10052018%20Letter%20to%20VA%20Secretary%20Wilkie%20regarding%20student%20veteran%20housing%20allowances.pdf) to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Heller stated, *“It is my understanding that the VA is implementing IT upgrades that the VA expected to have a small impact on the accuracy of G.I. Bill benefit payments, but that veterans would still receive a housing stipend.  However, it is concerning to hear that some veterans have not received any payment, putting their housing in jeopardy.  We cannot allow these veterans to become homeless as a result of this error.”*

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