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**Heller Announces $11.1 Million in Homeland Security Grants to Protect Nevada and Boost Readiness**

**Washington, D.C.** – Today, U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) welcomed the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) announcement finalizing that Nevada will receive more than $11.1 million in federal resources as part of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 preparedness grant programs.

Nevada was awarded the funds under three different programs: the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), the State Homeland Security Program, and the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program.

The grant programs provide funding to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as transportation authorities, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector, to improve the nation’s readiness in preventing, protecting against, responding to, recovering from and mitigating terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies.

“Ensuring our state has what it needs to thwart potential terror attacks and protect our tourism economy is critical, and that’s why I welcome Homeland Security’s announcement. This funding will go a long way for Nevada, especially in light of threats made by ISIS to target the Las Vegas Strip,” **Heller said.** “Nothing is more important than the safety and well-being of Nevadans. By training and preparing for the worst, our law enforcement and first-responders will be able to swiftly respond and react in the event that disaster strikes.”

Specifically, the funding includes:

* $2,837,000 to the Las Vegas area as part of the Urban Area Security Initiative.

* $3,752,000 to Nevada as part of the State Homeland Security Program.

* $4,513,618 to Nevada as part of the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program.

Earlier this summer, [Heller wrote to Homeland Security Secretary John F. Kelly](https://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=4CBFC0DA-B7E8-48E1-8625-BD83FB2B6C71) urging the department to reconfigure its UASI grant program, which was established to ensure the safety of high-risk urban areas, and reassess the “Risk Profile” for the Las Vegas area to ensure it has the adequate resources to preempt and protect against terror attacks, which have the potential to shatter Southern Nevada’s tourism economy.

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