Press Release:

U.S. Senator Dean Heller

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**Heller Introduces Pay Freeze for Members of Congress, Federal Employees**

**(Washington, DC) –** U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) introduced S.2079, which extends the pay freeze for Members of Congress and non-military federal employees through 2013. Similar legislation overwhelmingly passed the U.S. House of Representatives on February 1, 2012.

“Families across Nevada have been forced to tighten their belts in this tough economic environment. As our nation faces more than $15 trillion in debt, the federal government must do the same. The Senate has not passed a budget in more than 1,000 days and just last month the Majority party announced there will be no budget this year. Nevadans deserve better from their elected officials. This legislation will allow Members of Congress to lead by example and help bring a measure of fiscal responsibility to Washington,” said Senator Dean Heller.

Last week, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released its findings from a study on the pay gap between federal government and private sector workers. The CBO found that the average federal employee earns 16 percent more in total compensation – salary, pension, and other generous benefits – when compared to private sector workers.

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