



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND
NEVADA

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Kimie Beverly

6955 N. Durango Dr.

Ste. 1115-356

Las Vegas, NV 89149

702-285-6672

Kimie.Beverly@gmail.com

February 25, 2016

The Honorable U.S. Senator Dean Heller
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Equal Access to Air Travel for Service Disabled Veterans

Dear Senator Heller:

I write to you on behalf of the National Federation of the Blind of Nevada and to express our support in your decision to introduce the Senate version of HR 2264. The Space Available Program allows members of the active military, some family members, Red Cross employees, and retired armed services members to travel on military aircraft if space is available. However, members of the military who were classified as 100 percent service disabled before September 23, 1996 do not qualify for this program because they are not considered "retired." Some 100 percent service-disabled veterans are currently not able to participate in the program, yet we believe these men and women have earned the right to space-available travel just as others have because they sacrificed so much for our country.

With your leadership, this bill will amend Title 10 of the United States Code to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces.

The National Federation of the Blind of Nevada thanks you for championing this important bill in the U.S. Senate and supports its passage. Thank you for your commitment to serve disabled veterans in the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Kimie Beverly
President

National Federation of the Blind of Nevada