

September 28, 2015

Senator Dean Heller  
324 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Heller:

On behalf of The Northern Nevada International Center (NNIC), we want to thank you for your service to our state and to the nation and commend you for introducing the Jobs Originated through Launching Travel (JOLT) Act of 2015. The NNIC's main objective is to foster better understanding between people through our public diplomacy programs, our language and cultural projects and foreign policy forums. We also serve as a resource for local residents as well as visitors interested in international activities and events.

As part of the University of Nevada, Reno we serve as a host to hundreds of international visitors each year putting Nevada on the global stage. Anything we can do to make it easier for those around the world to visit and experience the United States is time and money well-spent.

We must ensure that our business and tourist visa process is updated and modernized and takes advantage of the sophisticated technological processes that we now have the capability to utilize. The JOLT Act does this by speeding up the entire visa process, allowing visitors from certain countries to stay longer, implementing a videoconferencing interview system pilot program, ensuring better coordination across federal agencies, and creating an expedited clearance and customs process for "trusted travelers."

Increased business and international visitors into the U.S. and Nevada results in increased jobs, investment, and the understanding of the vital role we each play to make this globe a kinder and peaceful place to live in. As we compete with destinations from all over the world for companies, visitors, and dollars, we simply cannot afford to do nothing on this issue. A small investment by our federal government now will result in huge dividends in the future.

Thank you for introducing and supporting such an important bill. Please let us know how we can assist you in getting this issue properly addressed and this bill across the finish line.

Sincerely,



Carina Black, PhD  
NNIC Executive Director