



September 18, 2015

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

Dear Senator Heller:

On behalf of The Chamber of Reno, Sparks, and Northern Nevada, the largest business organization in our region, I 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.

We don't have to tell you how vitally important tourism is to the Truckee Meadows, Lake Tahoe, and the entire state of Nevada. 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 tourist travel into the U.S. and Nevada results in increased jobs, investment, and tax revenue in our communities. 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.

Again, thank you for your service and 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,

Tray Abney
Director of Government Relations