

Heller helps Reid fend off gun filibuster

Reasserts 2nd Amendment support

By Erin Kelly
Gannett

U.S. Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev., on Thursday helped U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., fend off a filibuster by GOP leaders that would have blocked any further debate on gun control legislation.

Heller, a gun rights' supporter, was one of 16 Republicans and 52 Democrats opting to allow gun control measures to come to the U.S. Senate floor for a vote. The vote was 68-31 in favor of debate and action. All but two of the "no" votes were Republicans.

Heller bucked GOP leaders, including U.S. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky,

ter without the support of Heller and other Republicans, said he was grateful for their help.

"This legislation and this vote that just took place is, of course, important for our country, especially the people from Connecticut, who have lived through this tragedy," of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School, Reid said.

"But it's also important for this body, this Senate. There have been many things written in the last several months about how the Senate cannot operate. ... I'm grateful to all Republicans who joined with us to allow this debate to go forward."

Heller did not say exactl



Dean Heller

