

Reid, Heller working together on online poker

By Karoun Demirjian, Las Vegas Sun

Just a year ago, Nevada Sen. Harry Reid was busy making it his mission to prove that Nevada Sen. Dean Heller was inept at the delicate art of culling votes for Internet poker legislation.

Now that there's no Shelley Berkley candidacy to defend, though, Reid can't stop singing praises for Heller's prowess in reviving the online gaming debate.

"This was a very, very good hearing," Reid said of a meeting Heller ran this morning in the Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Consumer Protection.

"I helped him prepare for this," Reid said.

But just because Reid and Heller are all smiles doesn't mean online poker has a clear path through Congress.

While there is near-universal concern about the security of online gambling, not everyone believes that online poker should get a special carve-out if Congress tries to walk back the Obama administration's 2011 interpretation of the 1961 Wire Act.

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