



## **Through the Eyes of a Soldier: A Congressional Briefing on Combat Related Eye Injuries**

As many of us are learning, a significant number of soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan have suffered severe injuries to their eyes, as well as vision impairment caused by traumatic brain injury (TBI). As many as 16 percent of all soldiers returning from Iraq have significant vision problems, and that number only grows among service-members with TBI. Of all service-members treated at Walter Reed who have experienced TBI, 54 percent also have vision problems, and at the Veterans Administration's Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center in Palo Alto, 70 percent of those with TBI had vision problems.

To learn more about this issue, including information about the *Military Eye Trauma Treatment Act (H.R. 3558)*, legislation that would improve our tracking, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up for service members who experience these injuries, please join us for a Congressional Briefing.

**Who:** Major Eric Weichel, Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
Major Cameron Van Roekel, Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
Dr. James Orcutt, Department of Veterans Affairs  
Tom Zampieri, Blinded Veterans Association

**When:** October 29, 2007  
2:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served

**Where:** HC 6

All are welcome! If you plan to join us, please RSVP to [ecarr@sonnenschein.com](mailto:ecarr@sonnenschein.com).

**Sponsored by:**  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Optometric Association  
Blinded Veterans Association  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
Prevent Blindness America

**Honorary Co-Host:**  
Congressional Vision Caucus