



Celebrating the Decade of Vision 2010-2020

By Hand Delivery -- April 8, 2011

The Honorable Richard Shelby
304 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shelby:

On behalf of the community of support for vision research funded by the National Eye Institute (NEI) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), I commend you for your comments in support of NIH funding at the March 30 hearing of the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) Appropriations Subcommittee with Secretary Sebelius. NAEVR will acknowledge your comments in its written testimony submitted to the Subcommittee in support of a Fiscal year (FY) 2012 funding increase for the NIH, as well as provide specific vision examples that demonstrate the results-driven environment of the NIH.

NAEVR is pleased have the EyeSight Foundation of Alabama as a member organization. I also work closely with ophthalmic and optometric researchers from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), who have competed successfully for grant funding from the increased FY 2009/2010 "regular" appropriations and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding.

NAEVR looks forward to working with your office to ensure the momentum of NIH research and the retention of trained staff through an FY2012 NIH funding increase.

Sincerely,


James F. Jorkasky, Executive Director
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cc: Laura Friedel

Abbott Medical Optics
Alcon Laboratories, Inc.
Allergan, Inc
American Academy
of Ophthalmology
American Academy of Optometry
American Optometric Association
Association for Research in
Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of University Professors
of Ophthalmology
Bausch + Lomb
Essilor
Genentech, Inc.
Novartis
Pfizer Inc
Vistakon, Johnson & Johnson
Vision Care, Inc.

Association of Schools and
Colleges of Optometry
Foundation Fighting Blindness
Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
ISTA Pharmaceuticals
Schepens Eye Research Institute
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American Association of
Ophthalmic Pathologists
American Association for
Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus
American Glaucoma Society
American Society of Cataract
and Refractive Surgery
American Society of Retina Specialists
American Uveitis Society
AMD Alliance International
Association of Vision Science Librarians
Blinded Veterans Association
Discovery Eye Foundation
Eye Bank Association of America
EyeSight Foundation of Alabama
Fight For Sight
Glaucoma Research Foundation
International Retinal Research
Foundation
Juvenile Diabetes Research
Foundation International
Lighthouse International
Lions Eye Institute for
Transplantation & Research
Lions International
Macular Degeneration Partnership
Ocular Microbiology and
Immunology Group
Optometric Glaucoma Society
Prevent Blindness America
Prevention of Blindness Society of
Metropolitan Washington
Research To Prevent Blindness
Tear Film & Ocular Surface Society
The Cornea Society
The Glaucoma Foundation
The Macula Society
The Retina Society
The Vision Council
Women In Ophthalmology
Women's Eye Health.org