

# Contributor Report

## FY2007 LHHS Appropriations Bills Laud NEI Trans-Institute Research

Report Language in the House and Senate LHHS appropriations bills, recommended by NAEVR, recognizes the importance of NEI's collaborative research, as follows:

### House

"The Committee applauds NEI for the collaborative efforts of the Diabetic Retinopathy Clinical Research Network to test innovative treatment for diabetic eye disease. The Institute is encouraged to expand and extend the network by increasing the number of clinical trials with new drugs and therapeutics that can reverse or prevent diabetic retinopathy."

### Senate

"The Committee was pleased to hear of the recent discovery of a second gene which can increase the risk of developing age-related macular degeneration. The identification of these genes creates the opportunity to predict and preempt the disease, thus preserving independence and mobility for millions of Americans. The Committee urges the Institute to move on an expedited basis to translate this finding into treatment for those suffering from this condition."



Senate Report Language was derived from NAEVR testimony presented May 19 by Dr. Peter McDonnell (Wilmer Eye Institute/Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine), seen here with Senate LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Arlen Specter (R-PA).