



Advanced 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
Eli Lilly and Company
Foundation Fighting
Blindness
Novartis
Pfizer Inc
Vistakon, Johnson & Johnson
Vision Care, Inc.

Association of Schools
and Colleges of Optometry
Genentech, Inc.
GenVec, Inc.
Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
ISTA Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
(OSI) Eyetechnology, Inc.
Santen, Inc.
Second Sight

American Association of
Ophthalmic Pathologists
American Association for
Pediatric Ophthalmology
and Strabismus
American Diabetes Association
American Glaucoma Society
American Ophthalmological
Society
American Society of Cataract
and Refractive Surgery
American Society of Retina Specialists
American Uveitis Society
AMD Alliance International
Discovery Eye Foundation
Eye Bank Association
of America
EyeSight Foundation of Alabama
Fight for Sight
Glaucoma Research Foundation
Juvenile Diabetes Research
Foundation International
Lighthouse International
Lions International
Macular Degeneration Partnership
National Vision Rehabilitation Association
Ocular Microbiology and
Immunology Group
Prevent Blindness America
Prevention of Blindness
Society of Metropolitan
Washington
PXE International
Research To Prevent Blindness
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society
The Cornea Society
The Glaucoma Foundation
The Macula Society
The Retina Society
Vision Share,
The Consortium of Eye Banks
Women in Ophthalmology
Women's Eye Health Task Force

**Eye and Vision Breakthroughs:
Keep the Research Drive Alive!**

September 26, 2006

<SAMPLE LETTER>
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the community of support for eye and vision research, NAEVR urges you to sign onto the Specter/Harkin letter requesting that the Senate holds to its commitment to add \$7 billion to Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (LHHS) appropriations.

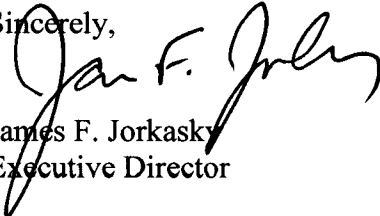
We appreciate your support this past March for the Specter/Harkin amendment to the Senate Budget Resolution. However, as you know, only \$5 billion has been added to the bill by shifting dollars from the Defense and Foreign Operations accounts.

By following through on its commitment to provide the remaining \$2 billion, Congress could increase FY2007 NIH funding by \$1 billion, or about five percent, which has been requested by the medical research advocacy community. The Senate bill currently increases FY2007 funding by \$200 million, which is only a 0.7 percent increase. Additionally, this funding level would only maintain individual Institutes at their FY2006 levels and result in minimal NEW research dollars in FY2007.

The National Eye Institute (NEI) faces an enormous challenge, as 60 million baby boomers are at risk of developing age-related eye diseases. Now is NOT the time to cut the budget for vision research.

I hope that you can once again join with Senators Specter and Harkin to support the full funding of LHHS programs in the FY2007 budget.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

James F. Jorkasky
Executive Director