September 4, 2018

The Honorable Robert Casey United States Senate 393 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Charles Grassley United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey and Senator Grassley:

On behalf of Prevent Blindness, I am writing to express support for S. 2020, the Screenings for Eye Evaluation, Monitoring, Observation, Review, and Examination (SEE MORE Act).

Founded in 1908, Prevent Blindness is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight. Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness impacts the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, advocacy, certified vision screening and training, community and patient service programs and research.

Prevent Blindness supports the SEE MORE Act's expansion of telehealth services under Medicare for use in detecting chronic eye disease. Telemedicine provides the opportunity to expand access to eye care in communities where it is unlikely that the appropriate and necessary eye care provider(s) will be physically present. If executed in alignment with established standards of care, programmatic efforts to drive provision of vision services via telemedical technology can be a valuable access point for the detection of serious eye diseases and ultimately prevent vision loss. Additionally, telemedicine can facilitate care coordination to receipt of comprehensive vision examination. We believe that this legislation's intent to remove barriers to care will not only improve access but foster improvement in detecting and identifying blinding eye conditions.

We commend your leadership in eliminating barriers in access to eye care under the Medicare program, and we stand ready to work with you and your colleagues to promote a strong continuum of eye care for Americans. Please contact Sara D. Brown, Director of Government Affairs at sbrown@preventblindness.org or (312) 363-6031 if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Jeff Todd, President and CEO

Prevent Blindness