February 5, 2017

Dear Senator ,

The Association for the Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AERBVI), the organization representing professionals who work with this important constituency, including blind and visually impaired children and youths, urges you to consider your vote to confirm Betsy DeVos for Secretary of Education with the following concerns in mind:

 Whether DeVos UNDERSTANDS or BELIEVES in the basic tenets of IDEA;

 Whether DeVos will UPHOLD and ENFORCE all provisions of this ACT and GUARANTEE the RIGHTS of children with disabilities to a free public education in the LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT

 Whether DeVos will DIVERT the use of public IDEA dollars to support private schools.

Thank you for your careful consideration of our interest to provide the best education to children and youths with blindness and visual impairment.

Sincerely,

Anthony R. Candela, C.R.C.

Chair, AERBVI Legislative Committee

acandela@juno.com