In the U.S. and almost half-a-million children are blind or have severely impaired vision.

The Faster Treatments and Cures for Eye Diseases Act is a federal bill that would create a pilot program to facilitate funding by private investors for translational research and advance treatments and cures for blindness and severe vision impairment.

Eye-Bonds, a key part of the bipartisan legislation, would finance packages of loans to projects at small labs, universities and other centers that right now can’t secure needed funding.

Organizations advocating for vision research support this new approach to facilitating private financing to accelerate development of treatments and cures for people with vision-robbing diseases.

CBO will likely score the cost of this pilot program as very low because repayment under the program goes first to reduce the taxpayers’ guarantee before any funds are paid out to private investors.

Contact your Congressman to voice your support for The Faster Treatments and Cures for Eye Diseases Act.