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The Construction Executive November edition, *Infrastructure: Paths to Funding*, features a Special Section: 18th Annual Contractors' Guide to Surety Bonding that includes two articles: [Surety Bonding Would Provide Peace of Mind for P3s](#) and [Electronic Signatures for Surety Bonds: Widespread Adoption Needed](#). The articles are written by SFAA President & CEO, Lee Covington, SFAA Vice President of Policy and General Counsel, Julie Alleyne, and NASBP Director of Government Relations, Larry LeClair. In the [first article](#), Covington explains how P3s are

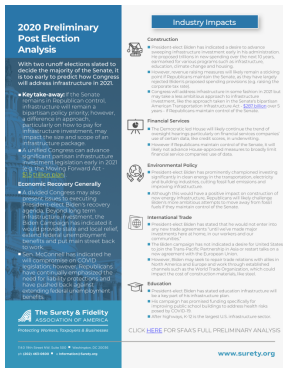
transforming the way that public infrastructure projects are being completed and why it is essential for them to be bonded. Covington describes the risks that contractors face if projects are not bonded, as well as the benefits that surety bonds provide. Covington writes, “Without a surety bond in place, taxpayers bear the burden of paying any excess completion costs should a contractor default.” In the [second article](#), Alleyne, and co-author LeClair, discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the need for electronic signatures to be accepted when executing surety bonds. Alleyne and LeClair describe the legal environment relating to electronic signatures, the notable successes in the industry so far, and the work that still must be done on this critical matter.

California Votes “NO” on Proposition 25 – the Replace Cash Bail with Risk Assessments Referendum

By voting against the Referendum, a majority of California voters repealed Senate Bill 10 (SB 10), which would have eliminated the use of cash bail in California and replaced it with risk assessments for detained suspects awaiting trial. The defeat came in large part from the work of the bail industry over the last two years to overturn SB 10. The repeal of the law will keep in place the use of cash bail for detained suspects. The bail industry joined Californians for Safer Communities, a broad coalition of surety companies, large retailers, bail agents and supporters from around the country. The industry credits the people of California who it says, “rejected the unconstitutional expansion of preventative detention, computer algorithms and letting offenders walk out of jail without posting bail.”



The industry hopes the California legislature will respect the will of public and not continue to press the issue of eliminating the use of cash bail. Additionally, it suggested that other states entertaining overreaching bail reform should look at the California experience and “opt for more reasonable and thoughtful reforms.” The industry suggested that one pragmatic reform would be to simply let those who can post bail, post bail, and provide a bail hearing to anyone remaining in custody after 48-72 hours.



SFAA Releases 2020 Election Analysis – Surety Sector Impacts

The Surety & Fidelity Association of America (SFAA) has released the 2020 Election Analysis – Surety Sector Impacts. The analysis covers the key points of interest for the surety sector under a Biden Administration, such as how his plans will impact the economic recovery generally, construction, financial services, environmental policy, international trade, and education sectors. The 2020 Election Analysis is available [here](#).

2020 Election Analysis - Surety Sector Impacts

Updated Resources Available to Members



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The Surety & Fidelity Association of America (SFAA) is a trade association of more than 425 insurance companies that write over 98 percent of surety and fidelity bonds in the U.S. SFAA is licensed as a rating or advisory organization in all states and it has been designated by state insurance departments as a statistical agent for the reporting of fidelity and surety experience.

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