

Surety & Fidelity WEEKLY

 **The Surety & Fidelity**
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Protecting Workers, Taxpayers & Businesses



In This Issue

Transportation Funding Included in COVID Stimulus Compromise Bill

SFAA Encourages Further Relief on PPP Loan Deductibility

SFAA President & CEO Discusses Infrastructure Prospects with Senator Cramer and Senator Portman

Register for the Virtual Legislative Fly-In with SFAA & NASBP

SFAA Releases 3rd Quarter Reports, Including the Top 100 Writers

Transportation Funding Included in COVID Stimulus Compromise Bill

After several weeks of negotiations between Congressional leaders and the White House, Congress announced it has reached an agreement and is expected to approve a [\\$900 billion stimulus deal](#) that will provide a second round of federal assistance to transportation industries, direct payments to individuals, and further federal unemployment relief, among other provisions. Importantly, the bill is expected to include roughly \$45 billion for various sectors, including \$15 billion for airlines, \$14 billion for transit, and \$10 billion for highways. Additionally, the package includes the bipartisan Water Resources Development Act of 2020 which authorizes important water infrastructure projects creating good-paying construction jobs and \$7 billion in funding to improve broadband access. SFAA, along with a broader coalition of construction industry associations, has strongly encouraged lawmakers to provide assistance to state departments of transportation that have experienced significant budget shortfalls due to the pandemic. Although the bill includes critical funding for the transportation sector, lawmakers omitted important provisions to provide businesses operating through the pandemic liability protections against COVID related lawsuits. SFAA will continue to encourage further relief for the constructor sector as Congress considers future COVID relief measures.



SFAA Encourages Further Relief on PPP Loan Deductibility

Earlier this month, SFAA [joined](#) a coalition of over 700 state and national associations, including the Associated General Contractors of America, to advocate for Congress to approve an important clarification that would allow expenses used by



Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans to be considered tax deductible. Earlier this year, the Treasury announced a controversial decision that PPP loan recipients would not be able to deduct costs used by the loans, even if those costs were previously considered a deductible expense (e.g. payroll). Lawmakers announced that a provision will be included in the COVID relief bill effectively reversing the Treasury's decision and will ensure expenses covered by forgiven PPP loans will be deductible. SFAA commends Congress for including this important clarification to ensure PPP loan recipients are not impacted by unexpected tax bills as they continue to navigate through economic uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

SFAA President & CEO Discusses Infrastructure Prospects with Senator Cramer and Senator Portman



SFAA President & CEO
Lee Covington



Senator
Rob Portman (R-OH)



Senator
Kevin Cramer (R-ND)

Last week, SFAA President & CEO, Lee Covington, had the opportunity to meet with Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) and Senator Kevin Cramer (R-ND) to discuss the important role the Senate will play in advancing significant infrastructure investment in the 117th Congress. During the conversation, Mr. Covington highlighted the work published in partnership with S&P Global highlighting why infrastructure investment is the best investment Congress can make to jumpstart our nation's economic recovery. Click [here](#) to see why infrastructure investment provides the highest return on investment when compared to other fiscal stimulus options being considered by Congress.



Register for the Virtual Legislative Fly-In with SFAA & NASBP

Please register for the first-ever joint SFAA & NASBP Virtual Legislative Fly-In on March 25, 2021. The SFAA & NASBP Virtual Legislative Fly-In will enable members to engage in policy discussions with U.S.

Congressional offices. Your participation as a surety advocate is critically important to ensure policymakers on Capitol Hill understand the significant role bonds play in advancing public works infrastructure projects. The new Congress will include a large freshman class, so it is imperative for SFAA and NASBP to become acquainted with the newly elected officials. All meetings will be scheduled virtually, and no travel is required to participate. Complete the [registration form](#) now.

SFAA Releases 3rd Quarter Reports, Including the Top 100 Writers

The 3rd Quarter 2020 Top 100 Writers report is now available to members on the [SFAA website](#). This report shows the industry's total premium and industry loss ratio. Members must be logged in to download the full report.



Updated Resources Available to Members



The **Law Library** can be found [here](#).

STAY CONNECTED



Upcoming Events

Advocacy News

Statistical News

Regulatory News

SFAA Weekly Archives

Law Library

Contact Us

The Surety & Fidelity Association of America
www.surety.org

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.
