



**National Association of Surety Bond Producers**

1140 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 800. Washington, DC 20036-5104

Phone: (202)686-3700

Fax: (202)686-3656

Web Site: <http://www.nasbp.org>

E-mail: [info@nasbp.org](mailto:info@nasbp.org)

March 19, 2014

Senator Thomas M. Middleton  
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Suite 3 East  
Annapolis, MD 21404

*RE: Bonding awareness and readiness of MD small construction businesses*

Dear Chairman Middleton:

Thank you for contacting the National Association of Surety Bond Producers (NASBP) concerning Senate Bill 851, which would create a registration system for individual sureties seeking to issue surety bonds and extend for five years the law that allows individual sureties to write bonds on procurement contracts in Maryland. NASBP appreciates your leadership on this legislation and your thoughtful concerns regarding the ability for small, emerging, and minority contractors to obtain surety bonds so they may bid on state and local government contracts.

As described in our correspondence to you and to members of the Senate Finance Committee on February 27, NASBP members have a long-standing history of advocating for resources to and educational programs for small and emerging businesses, so they may be positioned to qualify for surety credit. It is in this regards that NASBP would welcome the opportunity to discuss bonding awareness/readiness programs for small construction businesses in Charles County and elsewhere in Maryland. Once the General Assembly has adjourned for the 2014 session, NASBP would value an in-person planning meeting with you and members of your staff to discuss programming topics and logistics for a one-day bonding education workshop.

In the meantime, NASBP will contact those associations you suggested regarding bonding education programs and resources for small construction businesses. NASBP will work with such groups to assess needs and will look forward to reporting to you concerning our progress.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to Maryland small businesses. We are excited to be working with you in advancing this worthy effort in Charles County.

Yours sincerely,

Mark H. McCallum  
Chief Executive Officer  
cc: Senate Finance Committee