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Senate Committee Looks to 2020 for Water Infrastructure Bill

Last week a key Senate committee held a hearing to discuss next steps and key priorities for a new Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). Funding for current water programs is set to expire in 2020. Increasing the navigability of the nation’s waterways, improving flood prevention and levee systems, and combating the threat of invasive species were among the top goals promoted by the attendees of the hearing. Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-Calif.), Chairwoman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, reaffirmed her intentions to pass a WRDA in 2020 during a roundtable on the upcoming legislation in Florida. Despite solid commitments from key stakeholders in both the House
and Senate, the 2020 elections present a significant obstacle to advancing new, substantial legislation.

SFAA will continue to advocate for the inclusion of bonding requirements for WIFIA-funded projects as lawmakers consider reauthorizing WRDA in 2020.

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### SFAA Holds Sold Out Commercial Surety Seminars

Last week, SFAA hosted the Fundamental and Intermediate Commercial Surety Seminars in Chicago. The sessions enjoyed record attendance with 70 surety professionals participating.

The Fundamentals course covered topics such as bond form concepts, license and permit bonds, fiduciary bonds, and financial statements analysis.

The Intermediate course dove deeper into commercial surety, covering customs bonds, reinsurance, indemnity agreements, bankruptcy, and performed case reviews.

SFAA would like to thank the following member companies for providing 17 surety professionals who expertly presented to the seminar classes:

- Argo
- Berkley
- Chubb
- CNA
- Euler Hermes
- Great American
- The Guarantee Company
- Liberty Mutual
- Navigators Insurance
- The Philadelphia Insurance Companies
- RIL Insurance
- Westfield

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### 2019 Surety Industry Awards: Apply Today!

SFAA and NASBP invite all Local Surety Associations to submit applications for the Surety Industry Awards in recognition of their work promoting surety bonding.

Award categories are:

- Silver Award
- Gold Award
- Platinum Award
- Advocacy Award

Please email Seth Johnson with any questions.

The deadline to apply is **February 17, 2020**.
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.