



The Voice of Merit Construction

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TO: WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
FROM: ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS
RE: H.B. 1014 – SMALL BUSINESS COVID-19 RELIEF ACT OF 2021
POSITION: SUPPORT

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) SUPPORT H.B. 1014 which is before you today for consideration. This bill would establish the Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Loan Program in the Department of Commerce to provide working capital to assist Maryland for-profit small businesses, the operators of which have been disrupted due to COVID-19.

The majority of the state's construction sector is made up of small businesses. This legislation would create a critical lifeline for many of our member construction companies as they work hard to maintain their businesses, keep employees on payroll and provide paid leave and essential health benefits to those affected by COVID-19.

The loan program will be an interest-free for at least the first 12 months of the term of the loan. In addition, a loan issued under the program may be utilized for working capital to support payroll expenses, rent or mortgage expenses, utilities expenses, or other similar expenses that occur in the ordinary course of operation.

ABC is dedicated to continuing to work with our lawmakers to ensure a strong economy and safe and healthy workplaces for the construction industry. On behalf of the over 1,500 ABC business members in Maryland, we respectfully request an favorable report on H.B. 1014.

Marcus Jackson, Director
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