

CHAPTER 563**(House Bill 792)**

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority – Small Business Surety Bond Program

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority to execute and perform certain surety bonds under certain circumstances; repealing certain restrictions on a principal's ability to obtain a guaranty from the Authority; altering the names of the Small Business Surety Bond Guaranty Fund and the Small Business Surety Bond Guaranty Program; providing for the effective date of this Act; and generally relating to the Small Business Surety Bond Guaranty Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Financial Institutions

Section 13-234, 13-234.2, 13-234.3, 13-234.5, and 13-234.6

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1986 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Financial Institutions

13-234.

- (a) In Part VI of this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) "Authority" means the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority.
- (c)
 - (1) "Contract term" means the term of the contract.
 - (2) "Contract term" includes:
 - (i) the maintenance or warranty period required by the contract; and
 - (ii) the period during which the surety may be liable for latent defects.
- (d) "Fund" means the Small Business Surety Bond [Guaranty] Fund.
- (e) "Principal" means a small business entity that has assets, income or employees that do not exceed limits established by the Authority pursuant to regulation or administrative determination.
- (f) "Program" means the Small Business Surety Bond [Guaranty] Program created by Part VI of this subtitle.