



EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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June 26, 2026

Subject: EERI SUPPORT IF AMENDED for Assembly Bill 2471 – Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission

Dear Senate Appropriations Committee,

The Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) is writing to recommend amendment of AB 2471 to **increase the representation science and engineering specialties on the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission – particularly in the disciplines of seismology, geology, and geotechnical engineering.**

For 50 years, the California Seismic Safety Commission (SSC) has advised the Governor, State Legislature, and state and local governments on ways to reduce California's earthquake risks. Their ability to make strong, sound, and prudent recommendations relies on their ability to leverage the latest knowledge and expertise of the technical disciplines that help us understand our seismic hazard and build our cities and infrastructure. The scientific and engineering fields are nuanced and require representation and perspective on the Commission beyond just a single discipline.

In 2020, the size of the commission was reduced and several positions with technical expertise were removed. We recommend that this bill corrects this error.

We are pleased to see that this 2026 bill increases the size of this important Commission and explicitly adds its ability to make policy recommendations. **We respectfully ask that it is also amended to explicitly add appointed Commissioner roles for several technical disciplines that we feel are necessary for the Commission to achieve its charge, including a seismologist, geologist, and geotechnical engineer.**

Sincerely,

Heidi Tremayne
Executive Director