Recent Legislative Policy Outcomes in Support of Earthquake Risk Reduction

EERI Public Policy and Advocacy Panel Session
March 8, 2019 // 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM
Speakers

Emellia Zamani, Legislative Director, California State Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian
David Bonowitz, SE
Chris Poland, Consulting Engineer
Zahraa Saiyed, PE, Scyma Design & Consulting
Looking Back

- Developed Policy Position Statements
- Drafted language for NEHRP Reauthorization
- Mobilization of members in California
- Collaborated with Seismic Safety Advocates
- Increased our membership by nearly 2x!
Lessons Learned

- Strategic and appropriate activation of our members
- Recommendations into draft language
- Leveraging interested EERI members (National and State)
- Strengthen our seismic safety network
- ...We don’t write the bills!
EERI’s Roles and Values

**EERI is a leader** in earthquake investigations and in the dissemination of earthquake risk reduction information both in the US and globally in cooperation with its international partners.

Forging a consensus and speaking with a common voice to **public forums and legislative bodies** on behalf of the diverse risk management community.
Our committee moving forward

POLICY POSITION STATEMENTS:

To Date:
- Schools shall be URM Free by 2033
- Mitigation of Nonstructural Hazards in Schools
- Creating EQ Resilient Communities
- National EQ Hazards Reduction Program
- Improve Reliability of Lifeline Infrastructure
- Promoting the Use of Confined Masonry Construction
- Implementing an Effective EQ Early Warning System

In progress:
- Functional Recovery Statement
- Fire Following EQ
- Update to Creating EQ Resilient Communities
- Adopting Building Codes
- Promote Safe Housing (Domestic)
- Promote Safe Housing (International)
- Knowledge Commons

Yours next!
Our committee moving forward

Educate and Update Members – Legislative Action Center

**Current Legislation**

**California Assembly Bill 1857 – Building Codes**

California Assembly Bill (AB) 1857 requires the investigation of a necessary “functional recovery” standard to be incorporated in the California Building Code for all or some building occupancy classifications in the state. EERI believes these enforceable building code provisions and regulations are an important step to improved seismic safety in California, and that providing these specific design and construction requirements will support California’s broader disaster resilience and mitigation goals in the future.

**EERI Position: Support**

- Download [EERI Template for Governor Brown (CA)](docx)
- Download, fill out, and mail this template to voice your support
- View Instructions for contacting Governor Brown by phone and email
- Link to EERI page with instructions
Introducing....
EDUCATE MEMBERS ON ADVOCACY

- PPA toolkit
  - Talking points & Checklists
  - Videos
  - Resources

EDUCATE AND RAISE SEISMIC RISK PRIORITY WITH THE PUBLIC

- Our members as a vehicle to public outreach
  - Talking points & Checklists
  - Case Studies
  - Resources
Champions for Civic Engagement

- Care
- Compromise
- Coordination
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Campaigning
- More!
Continued Leadership in Seismic Safety

- Realize NEHRP Reauthorization Provisions
- Collaborate with like-minded organizations
- Empower our EERI Citizen Advocates
Questions?