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August 18, 2017

Senator Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart SOB
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein,

On behalf of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, a non-profit technical society dedicated to reducing earthquake risk, I am writing to express our strong support for the re-authorization of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP).

This new bill, introduced by Senators Feinstein, Murkowski, and Gardner should be passed by Congress as soon as possible to ensure that new tools, knowledge, resources, and support are developed to help our communities become earthquake resilient.

Earthquakes threaten U.S. infrastructure systems and at least 140 million Americans in forty-two states. NEHRP activities have clear benefits to the USA and our people. The costs of these programs are a fraction of the losses that can be generated by a single earthquake.

The NEHRP program, now 40 years old, has been instrumental in coordinating and advancing our federal government's efforts to advance science and engineering associated with earthquakes, develop and implement techniques to make our nation safer and more resilient, and support the efforts of states, communities, and the public to be prepared for earthquakes. By supporting its reauthorization, this important work can be continued into the future.

Thank you for your support of this important issue.

Sincerely,

David A. Friedman
President