



EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Board of Directors

David A. Friedman, *President*
Laurie A. Johnson, *President Elect*
Danielle Mieler, *Vice President*
Lucy Arendt, *Secretary/Treasurer*

John G. Anderson
Ross Boulanger
Gregory G. Deierlein
Tara C. Hutchinson

Judith Mitrani-Reiser
Sissy Nikolaou
Barry H. Welliver

Executive Director
Heidi Tremayne

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

Congressman Rohrabacher
U.S. 115th Congress
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Earthquake Engineering Research Institute's Support for H.R. 6650

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher:

I am writing on behalf of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) in support of House Bill: *H.R.6650 - National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018.*

The mission of EERI is to support individuals, communities and organizations with a common interest in reducing earthquake risk, and includes advocating for comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes. Our membership includes professionals in a wide range of seismic safety-related scientific and design disciplines, including but not limited to architects, planners, seismologists, structural engineers, geotechnical engineers, and public policy professionals.

H.R. 6650 reauthorizes and updates a program that for over 40 years has provided a framework for supporting critical earthquake hazard mitigation monitoring, research, and mitigation programs across the country. EERI believes this is a imperative step that will allow seismic safety across the United States to continue to improve and support the nation's broad and long-term disaster resilience objectives.

Thank you for introducing this bill and championing efforts to protect our nation's seismic safety. EERI feels it is in the nation's best interest to move forward as quickly as possible to ensure the continued effectiveness of this vital program. Please let us know how the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute can offer any further support.

Sincerely,

David A. Friedman
President