

State Building and Construction Trades Council of California

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Established 1901
Chartered by
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES
DEPARTMENT
AFL - CIO

April 17, 2019

The Honorable Susan Rubio
Chair, Senate Insurance Committee
State Capitol, Room 2195
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 254 (Hertzberg) - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Rubio:

On behalf of the State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, I write in support of SB 254 (Hertzberg). This bill would help spur critically needed earthquake retrofits in the residential housing market by bringing long-term financial stability to the California Earthquake Authority.

Given California's robust history of earthquake and seismic activity, there is no doubt that homeowners need to be prepared for an earthquake no matter where they live. Unfortunately, despite 43 earthquakes in 50 years of 5.0 magnitude or greater, many homeowners have not taken precautions to ensure that their homes can adequately withstand an earthquake of any magnitude. By creating a more stable and available form of financing for earthquake retrofit projects, SB 254 will hopefully spur into action the many California homeowners who need to take the next step in retrofitting their homes.

We appreciate Senator Hertzberg's leadership on this difficult and important issue by bringing the diverse set of stakeholders involved together to target this problem. It is for these reasons that we urge you to vote YES when SB 254 comes before you in the Senate Insurance Committee. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



CESAR DIAZ
Legislative Director

CD:bp
opeiu#29/afl-cio

cc: The Honorable Bob Hertzberg, California State Senate
Members, Senate Insurance Committee