

Date of Hearing: April 29, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Buffy Wicks, Chair

AB 2471 (Committee on Emergency Management) – As Introduced February 20, 2026

Policy Committee:	Emergency Management	Vote:	6 - 0
	Insurance		17 - 0

Urgency: No                      State Mandated Local Program: No                      Reimbursable: No

**SUMMARY:**

This bill revises the membership composition of the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission (SSC) in the Office of Emergency Services (OES) and expands SCC reporting requirements and authorizations.

Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Increases the size of the SCC from 15 to 17 members; provides that nine, instead of 10, members must be appointed by the Governor; and requires the SCC to include one representative member for each of the following: State Fire Marshal (SFM), Department of Insurance (CDI), and Strategic Growth Council (SGC).
- 2) Requires the SSC to additionally work with the SFM, CDI, and SGC as part of the SSC’s existing duty to identify and report on key activities and responsibilities related to seismic safety.
- 3) Authorizes, until January 1, 2030, the SCC to coordinate with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and OES to make policy recommendations regarding the mitigation of fire risks and lifeline infrastructure system disruptions after a major earthquake, and requires the SCC to annually report the recommendations to the Legislature.

**FISCAL EFFECT:**

- 1) Absorbable costs to the SCC to accommodate membership revisions and undertake the various additional reporting requirements.

However, since the primary purpose of this bill is to enhance existing reports and create new policy reports, this bill qualifies for this committee’s suspense file consistent with committee rules and custom and practice.

- 2) Minor and absorbable costs to CAL FIRE and SGC to work with the SCC on reporting provisions. CDI reports such costs to be \$6,000 in fiscal year (FY) 2026-27, \$56,000 in FY 2027-28, and \$12,000 in FY 2028-29 and annually thereafter.

**COMMENTS:**

- 1) **Purpose.** According to the author:

This bill reaffirms California's commitment to seismic safety by requiring representatives from the [SFM], [CDI], and [SGC] to be part of the [SSC]. Restructuring the Commission and requiring coordination between key entities responsible for fire safety, insurance risk, and statewide planning strengthens the technical capacity of the Commission.

This bill is supported by the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association.

- 2) **SCC.** The SCC was established in 1975 to provide a coordinated framework for establishing consistent earthquake policies, advise state and local government entities and the public, and track the state's progress toward improving seismic safety through annual publications. AB 100 (Committee on Budget), Chapter 20, Statutes of 2020, moved and integrated the SCC into OES to streamline earthquake safety, mitigation, and response efforts. The SCC is comprised of 15 members, with 10 appointed by the Governor, one each appointed by the Seante Committee on Rules and Speaker of the Assembly, and one each representing OES, the Division of the State Architect, and the California Building Standards Commission.

This bill increases the size of the SCC from 15 to 17 members, reduces the number of Governor appointees to nine, requires an additional member representative from the SFM, CDI, and SGC, and requires the SCC's existing duty to identify and report on seismic safety issues be inclusive of the SCC's new membership partners. This bill also authorizes the SCC to coordinate with CAL FIRE and OES on certain policy recommendations related to fire risks and lifeline infrastructure system disruptions after a major earthquake and requires the SCC to annually report recommendations to the Legislature.

- 3) **Prior Legislation.** AB 1770 (Committee on Emergency Management), Chapter 212, Statutes of 2024, authorized, until January 1, 2030, the SCC to coordinate with CAL FIRE and OES to collect data related to fire station seismic safety and early earthquake warning technology and requires the SCC to annually report related conclusions to the Legislature.

**Analysis Prepared by:** Irene Ho / APPR. / (916) 319-2081