

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS
AB 2471 (Committee on Emergency Management)
As Amended August 20, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

This bill would add representatives of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), Department of Insurance (CDI), and Strategic Growth Council to the Seismic Safety Commission, and reduce the number of members appointed by the Governor by one. The bill would additionally require the Commission, to make policy recommendations to the Legislature, as specified.

Senate Amendments

- 1) Strikes duplicative provisions related to the Governor's appointees
- 2) Makes minor conforming and non-substantive changes.

COMMENTS

Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission (SSC): The Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission (SSC) was established in 1975 by the Seismic Safety Act. The SSC provides a coordinated framework for establishing consistent earthquake policies, advises the Governor, the Legislature, local governments, and the public, and tracks the state's progress toward improving seismic safety through annual publications. The SSC works with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as the private sector, on a variety of activities that support the State's earthquake preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts. Currently, there are 15 commissioners who provide policy guidance, expertise, and perspectives from the private sector, academia, and local and state government.

Under current statute, 10 of the 15 members of the Seismic Safety Commission must be Gubernatorial appointments. Currently the Commission has representatives from the following areas: Local Government, the California Building Standards Commission, the California Division of State Architect, public utilities, emergency services, structural engineering, the State Assembly, Cal OES, and Fire Protection.

This bill would add representatives from the SFM, from CDI, and the Strategic Growth Council. Adding a representative from the SFM may increase the level in which fire safety responsibilities are considered in reports, conclusions, and policy recommendations submitted to the Legislature. As CDI focuses on consumer protection laws, having a CDI representative may ensure policies recommended by the Commission reflect the current challenges California insurers and consumers face. Requiring a member from the Strategic Growth Council on the SSC may ensure actions, conclusions, and policy recommendations made by the Commission would be in concert with the Council's sustainability, equity, economic prosperity, and quality of life strategies.

According to the Author

"This bill reaffirms California's commitment to seismic safety by requiring representatives from the State Fire Marshal, Department of Insurance, and Strategic Growth Council to be part of the Seismic Safety Commission. 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."

Arguments in Support

The San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association (SPUR) writes in support, "This bill makes important updates to the role and responsibilities of the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission, strengthening California's ability to coordinate, plan for, and respond to earthquakes and other emergencies. As an organization committed to advancing resilience, effective governance, and evidence-based policy, SPUR recognizes the critical role that clear institutional structures and interagency coordination play in protecting communities. AB 2471 helps ensure that the state's seismic safety leadership remains responsive to today's risks and better aligned with evolving emergency management needs by adding representatives from the State Fire Marshal, Department of Insurance, and the Strategic Growth Council."

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations:

- 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.

VOTES:

ASM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: 6-0-1

YES: Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bennett, DeMaio, Ransom

ABS, ABST OR NV: Bains

ASM INSURANCE: 17-0-0

YES: Calderon, Wallis, Addis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Berman, Chen, Ellis, Gipson, Hadwick, Harabedian, Krell, Nguyen, Ortega, Petrie-Norris, Michelle Rodriguez, Valencia

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0

YES: Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0-1

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

ABS, ABST OR NV: Celeste Rodriguez

UPDATED

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