

April 15, 2010

Via Email and Facsimile to (916) 319-2133
Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 2746

Dear Assemblyman Blakeslee,

We are writing to express our support for your Assembly Bill number 2746. We strongly support creating the position of Chief Mitigation Officer to efficiently and effectively implement programs to help Californians mitigate their property against seismic risks.

One of the CEA's important statutory duties is to help California homeowners take steps to make their homes more resistant to quake damage. However, the Authority's mitigation-related outreach and support activities have been uneven in recent years. This is largely because it has very limited staffing resources. UP has consistently supported legislation to increase the CEA's staffing. Allowing the CEA to employ a Chief Mitigation Officer will help it do a better job of fulfilling this important statutory duty.

United Policyholders is a 501(c) (3) non-profit insurance consumer organization that educates the public on insurance issues and advocates for policyholders. Through our Roadmap to Preparedness Program we help property owners take steps to be personally disaster prepared by retrofitting their homes and buying the right insurance for their individual needs. We have worked closely with CEA staff for many years, and we strongly support this bill. This bill will help make California more disaster-ready and earthquake safe.

Sincerely,



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