

September 20,2015

Jim McGowan, Executive Director  
California Building Standards Commission  
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130  
Sacramento, CA 95833

Subject: Proposed CBC Change 11B-202.4

Dear Mr. McGowan and Code Advisory Committee;

This is to express my strong support for CBC change (11B-202.4 Exception 10) that limits the cost of accessibility improvements to 20% of project cost. This change can result in a release of the back-log of seismic mitigation projects with a win-win result for both seismic safety and accessibility.

Over the past 20 years I have been called upon to perform design peer review services for seismic mitigation projects within the City and County of San Francisco. This function has made me directly aware of the type and extent of seismic resistance deficiencies existing in our building stock: where age, deterioration, non-permitted modifications, and poor construction details can result in severe life hazard in the event of a strong earthquake. The correction of these deficiencies is most urgent for the high seismic risk regions of California.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Zsutty  
Professor Emeritus: Structural Engineering at San Jose State University.

Retired Consulting Professor: Earthquake Engineering at Stanford University

