



CALIFORNIA NURSES ASSOCIATION



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TO: *OBSC* Fax: *916-263-0959*

FROM: *K Green* Date: *3/29/10*

RE: Pages: *2* (including this page)

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re: HAZUS Rego

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CALIFORNIA
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NATIONAL NURSES
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

A Voice for Nurses. A Vision for Healthcare.
www.calnurses.org / www.nnoc.net

March 29, 2010

California Building Standards Commission
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 9533
Attn: Dave Walls, Executive Director

Dear Mr. Walls:

The 86,000 registered nurses of the California Nurses Association (CNA) has been on record on numerous occasions opposing extensions of seismic safety requirement deadlines for hospitals, and thus, must respectfully oppose the proposed changes to California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 1, Chapters 6 and 7.

We understand that the proposed regulations are designed to implement provisions enacted by SB 499 (Ducheny), Chapter 601, Statutes of 2009. SB 499 authorized the California Building Standards Commission to promulgate emergency regulations to adjust the HAZUS methodology for rating 853 hospitals currently rated as Structural Performance Categories (SPC)-1. This adjustment could result in potentially hundreds of SPC-1 hospitals being reclassified to SPC-2, thus possibly having their seismic safety requirement delayed until 2030.

We have maintained the position that hospitals have known about their obligation to comply with seismic safety since the 1970's, and that the industry understands that buildings that predate 1973 would not be in use for 30-40 years due to the relatively short construction shelf life. We believe that extending seismic safety deadlines place patients and health care workers at risk, and continue to oppose our current system of continued non-compliance. It is good public policy to have a seismically sound hospital should the next event occur.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

Kelly Green