To reauthorize and amend the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. FEINSTEIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on __________

A BILL

To reauthorize and amend the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Section 2 of the Earthquake Haz-
ards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701) is amend-
ed—
(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting “Oregon,” after “New York,”; and

(B) by inserting “Tennessee,” after “South Carolina”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “prediction techniques and”;

(3) by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following:

“(4) A well-funded seismological research program could provide the scientific understanding needed to fully implement an effective earthquake early warning system.”;

(4) in paragraphs (6) and (7), by striking “life-lines” each place it appears and inserting “lifeline infrastructure”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(12) The built environment has generally been constructed and maintained to meet the needs of the users under normal conditions. When earthquakes occur, the built environment is generally designed to prevent severe injuries or loss of human life and is not expected to remain operational or able to recover under any specified schedule.
“(13) The National Research Council published a study on reducing hazards and risks associated with earthquakes based on the goals and objectives for achieving national earthquake resilience described in the strategic plan entitled ‘Strategic Plan for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program’. The study and an accompanying report called for work in 18 tasks focused on research, preparedness, and mitigation and annual funding of approximately $300,000,000 per year for 20 years.”.

(b) PURPOSE.—Section 3 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7702) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), in the first sentence, by inserting “and increase the resilience of communities” after “future earthquakes”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by inserting “to individuals and the communities” after “an earthquake”;

(3) in paragraph (2), by striking “in time of disaster” and inserting “to facilitate community-wide post-earthquake recovery and in times of disaster”;

(4) in paragraph (3), by striking “for predicting damaging earthquakes and”;

(5) in paragraph (4), by inserting “and planning” after “model building”; and
(6) in paragraph (5), by striking “reconstruction” and inserting “re-occupancy, recovery, reconstruction,”.

e) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) LIFELINE INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 4(6) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7703(6)) is amended by striking “lifelines” and inserting “lifeline infrastructure”.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Such Act (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) is amended by striking “lifelines” each place it appears and inserting “lifeline infrastructure”.

(2) COMMUNITY RESILIENCE.—Section 4 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7703) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) The term ‘community resilience’ means the ability of a community to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse seismic events.”.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATION OF NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM.

(a) MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (a)(2) of section 5 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704) is amended—
(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (iii), by inserting “, community resilience,” after “seismic risk”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) publishing a systematic set of maps of active faults and folds, liquefaction susceptibility, susceptibility for earthquake induced landslides, and other seismically induced hazards; and”; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking “develop, operate” and all that follows through “7708),” and inserting “continue the development of the Advanced National Seismic System, including earthquake early warning capabilities”.

(b) Amendments Relating to Interagency Coordinating Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction.—

(1) Clarification regarding membership.—Subsection (B) of subsection (a)(3) of such section is amended, in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “The committee” and inserting “In addition to the Director, the committee”.

(2) Reduction in minimum frequency of meetings of Interagency Coordinating Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction.—
Subparagraph (C) of such subsection is amended by striking “not less than 3 times a year” and inserting “not less frequently than once each year”.

(3) EXPANSION OF DUTIES.—Subparagraph (D) of such subsection is amended to read as follows:

“(D) DUTIES.—

“(i) GENERAL DUTY.—The Interagency Coordinating Committee shall oversee the planning, management, and coordination of the Program.

“(ii) SPECIFIC DUTIES.—The duties of the Interagency Coordinating Committee include the following:

“(I) Developing, not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2004 and updating periodically—

“(aa) a strategic plan that establishes goals and priorities for the Program activities described under subsection (a)(2); and
“(bb) a detailed management plan to implement such strategic plan.

“(II) Developing a coordinated interagency budget for the Program that will ensure appropriate balance among the Program activities described under subsection (a)(2), and, in accordance with the plans developed under subclause (I), submitting such budget to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget at the time designated by the Director for agencies to submit biennial budgets.

“(III) Developing interagency memorandums of understanding with any relevant Federal agencies on data sharing and resource commitment in the event of an earthquake disaster.

“(IV) Coordinating with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
tion on data sharing and resource allocation to ensure judicious use of Government resources and the free-flowing exchange of information related to earthquakes.

“(V) Coordinating with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior on the use of public lands for earthquake monitoring and research stations, and related data collection.

“(VI) Coordinating with the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on the effects of earthquakes on transportation and housing stocks.

“(iii) Assistance from Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of the Interior.—To the extent practicable, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior shall expedite any request for a permit to use public land under clause (ii)(V).”
(4) Reduction in frequency of reporting
by interagency coordinating committee on
earthquake hazards reduction.—

(A) In general.—Subsection (a)(4) of
such section is amended—

(i) in the paragraph heading, by strik-
ing “ANNUAL” and inserting “BIENNIAL”;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraphs
(A) through (F) as clauses (i) through (vi),
respectively, and adjusting the indentation
of the margin of such clauses, as so redes-
ignated, two ems to the right;

(iii) in the matter preceding clause (i),
as redesignated by clause (ii), by striking
“The Interagency” and all that follows
through “Senate” and inserting the fol-
lowing:

“(A) In general.—Not less frequently
than once every two years, the Interagency Co-
ordinating Committee shall submit to the Com-
mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
tation, the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources, and the Committee on Homeland
Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-
ate and the Committee on Energy and Com-
merce, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the Program”; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) SUPPORT FOR PREPARATION OF REPORT.—Each head of a Program agency shall submit to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology such information as the Director may request for the preparation of a report under subparagraph (A) not later than 90 days after the date on which the Director requests such information.”.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and constructing,” and inserting “constructing, evaluating, and retrofitting”; and
(B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “provide new and” after “research to”; and

(2) in paragraph (5), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), in the first sentence, by inserting “community resilience through” after “improve”.

(d) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—Paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of such section is amended to read as follows:

“(2) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY; FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—

“(A) PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Man-
agement Agency—

“(i) shall operate a program of grants and assistance to enable States to develop mitigation, preparedness, and response plans, purchase necessary instrumentation, prepare inventories and conduct seismic safety inspections of critical structures and lifelines, update building, land use plan-
ning, and zoning codes and ordinances to enhance seismic safety, increase earth-
quake awareness and education, and pro-
vide assistance to multi-State groups for such purposes;

“(ii) shall support the implementation of a comprehensive earthquake education, outreach, and public awareness program, including development of materials and their wide dissemination to all appropriate audiences and support public access to locality-specific information that may assist the public in preparing for, mitigating against, responding to and recovering from earthquakes and related disasters;

“(iii) shall, in conjunction with the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, other Federal agencies, and private sector groups, use research results to support the preparation, maintenance, and wide dissemination of seismic resistant design guidance and related information on building codes, standards, and practices for new and existing buildings, structures, and lifelines, aid in the development of performance-based design guidelines and methodologies, and support model codes that are cost effective
and affordable in order to promote better practices within the design and construction industry and reduce losses from earthquakes;

“(iv) shall enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with States and local jurisdictions and other Federal agencies to establish demonstration projects on earthquake hazard mitigation, to link earthquake research and mitigation efforts with emergency management programs, or to prepare educational materials for national distribution; and

“(v) shall support the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the completion of programmatic goals.

“(B) STATE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CRITERIA.—In order to qualify for assistance under subparagraph (A)(i), a State must—

“(i) demonstrate that the assistance will result in enhanced seismic safety in the State;

“(ii) provide 25 percent of the costs of the activities for which assistance is being
given, except that the Administrator may
lower or waive the cost-share requirement
for these activities in exceptional cases of
economic hardship; and

“(iii) meet such other requirements as
the Administrator shall prescribe.”.

(e) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNITED
STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—Subsection (b)(3) of such
section is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
in the first sentence—

(A) by inserting “report on significant do-
mestic and international earthquakes and” after
“Survey shall”; and

(B) by striking “predictions.” and insert-
ing “forecasts.”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “pre-
dictions, including aftershock advisories” and insert-
ing “alerts and early warnings”;

(3) by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting
the following:

“(D) issue when necessary and feasible,
and notify the Administrator of the Federal
Emergency Management Agency, the Director
of the National Institute of Standards and
Technology, and State and local officials, an
alert and an earthquake warning;”;

(4) in subparagraph (E), in the matter pre-
ceeding clause (i), by striking “using” and inserting
“including”;

(5) in subparagraph (I), by striking “; and”
and inserting a semicolon;

(6) in subparagraph (J)—

(A) by inserting “and data” after “hazard
maps”; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and
inserting “; and”; and

(7) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) support the Director of the National
Institute of Standards and Technology in the
completion of programmatic goals.”.

(f) MODIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF NA-
TIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—Subsection (b)(4) of
such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “, State
agencies, State geological surveys,”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “to sup-
port applied science in the production of a system-
atic series of earthquake-related geologic hazard
maps, and” after “Survey”;
(3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “George E. Brown Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering and Simulation” and inserting “Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure”;

(4) in subparagraph (G), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(5) in subparagraph (H), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(I) support the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the completion of programmatic goals.”;

(7) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (I) as clauses (i) through (ix), respectively, and indenting such clauses accordingly;

(8) in the matter before clause (i), as redesignated by paragraph (7), in the first sentence, by striking “The National Science Foundation” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The National Science Foundation”; and

(9) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDING.—The National Science Foundation shall—
“(i) note in any notice of Program funding or other funding possibilities under the Program that the funds are part of the Program;

“(ii) track the awarding of Federal funds through the Program; and

“(iii) not less frequently than once every 2 years, submit to the director of the Program a report specifying the amount of Federal funds awarded to conduct research that enhances the understanding of earthquake science.”.

SEC. 4. REVIEW OF RISKS POSED BY EARTHQUAKES TO THE UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable, but not later than such date as is necessary for the Comptroller General of the United States to submit the report required by subsection (c) in accordance with such subsection, the Comptroller General shall complete a review of risks posed by earthquakes to the United States.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The review conducted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A comprehensive assessment of—

(A) the risks and hazards to the United States posed by earthquakes, including risks
and hazards resulting from tsunamis and landslides that are generated by earthquakes;

(B) the efforts of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Institute of Standards and Technology to improve the resilience of the United States to earthquakes and to identify important gaps in the resilience of the United States to earthquakes;

(C) the progress made by the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Interagency Coordinating Committee to coordinate effectively the budget and activities of the Program agencies (as defined in section 4 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7703)) in advancing the plans and goals of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program and how coordination among the Program agencies can be improved;

(D) the extent to which the Federal Government, States, local, and tribal governments, and the private sector are already implementing strategies to improve resilience of the United States to earthquakes; and

(E) the extent to which the research done during the 40 years of the Program has been
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applied to both public and private earthquake
risk and hazards reduction.

(2) Identification of such legislative or adminis-
trative action as may be appropriate to improve the
Program and the resilience of the United States to
earthquakes.

(e) REPORT.—As soon as practicable, but not later
than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act,
the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee
on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Com-
mittee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Com-
mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Com-
merce, the Committee on Natural Resources, and the
Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-
resentatives a report on the findings of the Comptroller
General with respect to the review completed under sub-
section (a).

SEC. 5. SEISMIC STANDARDS.

Section 8 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act
of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7705b) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. SEISMIC STANDARDS.

"(a) ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not
later than December 1, 2019, the Director of the National
Institute of Standards and Technology and the Adminis-
trator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall jointly convene a committee of experts from Federal agencies, nongovernmental organizations, private sector entities, disaster management professional associations, engineering professional associations, and professional construction and homebuilding industry associations, to assess and recommend options for improving the built environment and critical infrastructure to reflect performance goals stated in terms of post-earthquake reoccupancy and functional recovery time.

“(b) Report to Congress.—Not later than June 30, 2020, the committee convened under paragraph (1) shall submit to Congress a report on recommended options for improving the built environment and critical infrastructure to reflect performance goals stated in terms of post-earthquake reoccupancy and functional recovery time.”.

SEC. 6. MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC SYSTEM.

(a) Plan Required.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States Geological Survey shall submit to Congress a 5-year management plan for the continued operation of the Advanced National Seismic System.
(b) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Strategies to continue the development of an earthquake early warning system.

(2) A mechanism for securing the participation of State and regional level earthquake monitoring entities, including those defunded by the Advanced National Seismic System in the last five years.

(3) A plan to encourage and support the integration of geospatial data products into earthquake monitoring in regions experiencing large earthquakes.

(4) A plan to ensure that there is an active, geographically-diverse, management and advisory structure for the Advanced National Seismic System.

SEC. 7. REPEAL OF EXPIRED AUTHORIZATIONS.

Section 12 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7706) is hereby repealed.

SEC. 8. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) Correction of Title of Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.—The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.) is amended—
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(1) in section 5 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduc-

duction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704)—

(A) in subsection (a)(3)(B), as amended by

section 3(b)(1)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i),

by striking “the directors of”;

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting “the Ad-

ministrator of” before “the”; and

(iii) in clause (ii) through (v), by in-

serting “the Director of” before “the” each

place it appears; and

(B) in subsection (b)(3)(C), as amended by

section 3(e), by striking “Director of the Fed-

eral” and inserting “Administrator of the Fed-

eral”; and

(2) in section 9 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7705c),

by striking “Director of the Agency” and inserting

“Administrator of the Federal Emergency Manage-

ment Agency” each place it appears.

(b) REFERENCES TO THE ADVANCED NATIONAL

SEISMIC SYSTEM.—Such Act is amended—

(1) in section 13, in the section heading, by

striking “ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC RE-

SEARCH AND MONITORING SYSTEM” and insert-
ing “ADVANCED NATIONAL SEISMIC SYSTEM”;

and

(2) by striking “Advanced National Seismic Research and Monitoring System” each place it appears and inserting “Advanced National Seismic System”.

(c) INCORRECT CROSS-REFERENCES.—Paragraph (4) of section 5(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 7704(a)), as amended by section 3(b)(4)(A), is amended—

(1) in clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A), as redesignated by section 3(b)(4)(A), by striking “subparagraph (3)(A)” both places it appears and inserting “paragraph (3)(D)(i)(I)”; and

(2) in clause (iii), as redesignated, by striking “under (3)(A)” and inserting “under paragraph (3)(D)(i)(I)”. 