

April 19, 2023

The Honorable Susan Eggman
Senate Health Committee, Chair
1021 O Street, Suite 3310
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 759 (Grove), SUPPORT

Dear Senator Eggman:

The Alliance of Catholic Health Care, which represents California's Catholic-affiliated health systems and hospitals, is writing to Support SB 759 (Grove).

SB 759 would extend by ten years the deadline for hospitals to comply with the state's seismic retrofit requirement for hospital buildings, from 2030 to 2040.

According to the California Hospital Association, complying with the state's seismic building standards could cost hospitals more than \$100 billion statewide, at a time when our hospitals can ill afford it. Inflation costs and labor costs have depleted our savings, leaving little funds to invest in seismic upgrades. Therefore, the change of deadline from 2030 to 2040 will allow hospitals the time needed to update plans and ensure they are more financially secure to complete any needed expenditures.

It is important to note that after more than two decades of work and billions in investments already made, California hospitals are already among the safest buildings in their communities, able to withstand powerful earthquakes. Therefore, we look forward to continuing our dialogue with all stakeholders on opportunities to modernize the standards and to ensure we focus our resources to best meet the needs of our communities during disasters.

The Alliance of Catholic Health Care and our members are pleased to support SB 759 (Grove) and urge your aye vote.

Sincerely,



Lori Cappello Dangberg
Executive Vice President



*Representing California's Catholic
Health Systems and Hospitals*