

CITY OF



ONTARIO

303 EAST "B" STREET, CIVIC CENTER

ONTARIO

CALIFORNIA 91764-4105

(909) 395-2000  
FAX (909) 395-2070

PAUL S. LEON  
MAYOR

RUBEN VALENCIA  
MAYOR PRO TEM

ALAN D. WAPNER  
JIM W. BOWMAN  
DEBRA DORST-PORADA  
COUNCIL MEMBERS

March 27, 2019

SCOTT OCHOA  
CITY MANAGER

SHEILA MAUTZ  
CITY CLERK

JAMES R. MILHISER  
TREASURER

The Honorable Adrin Nazarian  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol Building, Room 4146  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Assembly Bill 234 – Notice of Support**

Dear Assemblymember Nazarian,

On behalf of the City of Ontario, I am writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 234. As currently drafted, the legislation would create the Seismic Retrofit Tax Credit program, which would encourage the implementation of safety improvements for at-risk buildings across our State.

California is no stranger to earthquakes, having suffered devastating losses throughout our history due to seismic activity in various jurisdictions. Despite numerous warnings, there are still well over a million structures in our State that will be particularly vulnerable when the next high magnitude quake takes place. A number of these buildings are local historic landmarks that should be preserved for the education of future generations. If passed, Assembly Bill 234 would establish an incentive program to protect these structures by motivating owners of endangered buildings to make much needed investments in their properties. The credit can then be applied to partially cover the initial investment made by the owner to strengthen the structure in question.

We currently have the benefit of hindsight and the ability to make preparations ahead of a potential disaster. However, we still cannot predict when the next earthquake will strike. Therefore, immediate action is imperative to equip residents across the State with the tools to mitigate human and financial losses. For these reasons the City of Ontario strongly supports Assembly Bill 234.

Sincerely,

Paul S. Leon  
Mayor

c: The Honorable Senator Connie M. Leyva  
The Honorable Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez  
Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee

[www.ontarioca.gov](http://www.ontarioca.gov)