



★ PRESS RELEASE ★ PRESS RELEASE ★ PRESS RELEASE ★

CONGRESSWOMAN MARY BONO MACK

Serving California's 45th District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

CONTACT:

JENNIFER MAY
(202) 226-5365

BONO MACK APPLAUDS TOWN HALL ON EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

PALM SPRINGS, CA -- Congresswoman Mary Bono Mack (CA-45), co-chair of the Riverside County Associate Group for the *Great Southern California ShakeOut*, today praised local efforts to help the community get more prepared in case of an earthquake. This evening, residents and local leaders will participate in a town hall meeting to discuss the reality of a major earthquake and to help coordinate the community response. The town hall is hosted by the Riverside County Associate Group, which Bono Mack co-chairs with Peter Lent, Deputy Director of the Riverside County Fire Department Office of Emergency Services, and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

“In an emergency, being prepared can make all the difference,” said Bono Mack. “With the potential for a major earthquake in our region, it is all the more critical that we take steps now to educate and prepare our friends and family. Having emergency response plans in place, knowing our neighbors, and participating in town hall meetings like tonight are just some ways that residents can help mitigate damages and hopefully prevent devastation that could occur.

“This town hall meeting presents a valuable opportunity to learn about what a major seismic shock could mean to our region and also to help us join together as a community in knowing what to do when a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, strikes. This event is one in a series aimed to better inform local residents, community leaders and law enforcement and public safety officers about the *Great Southern California ShakeOut* and the importance of preparedness.

“I applaud local residents and leaders for taking part in this important discussion, and I continue to encourage individuals throughout our community to participate in the upcoming *Great Southern California ShakeOut* – the largest earthquake drill in U.S. history.”

At the town hall event, Dr. Lucy Jones, with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), will provide important information on what would happen in case of a major earthquake and will encourage residents to participate in the *ShakeOut* this November.

For more information about the *Great Southern California ShakeOut*, visit www.shakeout.org or Bono Mack's website at www.bono.house.gov. These sites include important information including how to develop your family's disaster plan; how to register and participate in the *ShakeOut*; and other useful resources about what to expect in the case of a major earthquake.

###

To link directly to this press release, use the following address:
<http://bono.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=101820>.