



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 17, 2024

Great ShakeOut Day

California is home to several active seismic zones and over the next 30 years, the state has a more than 99 percent chance of experiencing a magnitude 6.7 earthquake. We do not know when the next major earthquake will hit, so it is vital that individuals, businesses and communities learn the steps that can be taken to protect life and property.

This year provides a stark reminder of what's at stake when a serious earthquake strikes. October 17 marks the 35-year anniversary of the magnitude 6.9 Loma Prieta earthquake, which resulted in 63 casualties, thousands injured and displaced, and widespread damage to buildings and infrastructure.

Launched in 2019, California's first-in-the-nation earthquake early warning system notifies residents in advance of shaking, giving people brief but vital moments of warning to take lifesaving action. Just last month, California's early warning system provided advance notification to millions of Californians in Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura counties ahead of a magnitude 4.7 earthquake near Malibu. Californians can access these alerts through the no-cost [MyShake App](#).

Working to make communities more resilient and better prepared for earthquakes, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and many partners will join millions of Californians participating in the Great ShakeOut – an opportunity to practice “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” or “Lock, Cover, and Hold On” for individuals using a wheelchair or assistive device.

All of us can take action today to become better prepared for when an earthquake strikes. I urge all Californians to learn more about earthquake safety and join this year's drill by visiting [earthquake.ca.gov](#) and [www.ShakeOut.org/California](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Newsom".

Gavin Newsom