

Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission

2007 Policy Proposal

Earthquake Insurance

Findings:

With the increase in Oregon's earthquake risk it has become apparent that some residential insurance carriers are now no longer offering earthquake insurance in the State of Oregon causing consumers to have no insurance, gaps in coverage or obtain insurance from other carriers that offer reduced coverage with higher fees.

In other states, particularly California, all insurers of residential property are required by statute to offer earthquake coverage whether it is contained within the policy itself or offered through another carrier. It must be offered at the time of issuance, or delivered or renewed.

The State of Oregon should take a strong stand on this subject in order to ensure that our residents are offered the highest possible protection for their largest financial asset to create safety and soundness in the state.

Policy:

It shall be the policy of the State of Oregon that all residential property insurers offer, through their own insurance policy or another carrier, earthquake insurance to residential property owners in the State of Oregon.