



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 2021

Building Safety Month

The safety and economic value of our homes, buildings and infrastructure are key to California's resilience in the face of challenges ranging from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change impacts, a year-round wildfire season, earthquake threats and more. During Building Safety Month, we recognize the role of high-quality building standards and the code officials and developers who take all of this into account.

The quiet heroes who safeguard the places where we live, work and learn – building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers, electricians and others in the construction industry – make sure our buildings and physical infrastructure are not only safe, but resilient, to protect the investments of homeowners, local governments and businesses. In coordination with California's state agencies that implement the California Building Standards Code (Title 24, California Code of Regulations), these professionals work year-round to ensure the safety of California's built environment.

A global climate leader, California is working to ensure our buildings are constructed using an energy-efficient, climate-resilient and sustainable framework. The weekly themes of Building Safety Month 2021 – Energy and Innovation, Training the Next Generation, Water Safety and Disaster Preparedness – underscore the ways in which building safety factors into meeting the needs of Californians today, as well as future generations.

This year's Building Safety Month, with the overall theme of *Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save*, encourages all of us to reflect on the important work of code officials to protect our homes, schools and other buildings – not only in response to times of crisis, but in ongoing planning for a safe and sustainable future.

Sincerely,

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

Gavin Newsom