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Assemblymember O'Donnell's Community Hospital Bill on Hold

City of Long Beach must develop seismic compliance plan

(Long Beach) – The state-level effort to keep Community Hospital open in Long Beach is on hold. The City of Long Beach must come forward with a plan detailing how seismic compliance will be achieved before further action can be taken. Following MemorialCare's decision to close the hospital, Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell (D – Long Beach) introduced Assembly Bill 2591 in an effort to extend the hospital's seismic compliance deadline.

The Assembly Health Committee Chairman stated he was withholding a vote on AB 2591 until the City of Long Beach comes up with a plan demonstrating how and when Community Hospital can meet seismic safety standards. Other hospitals across the state with similar seismic issues have engaged in extensive planning to upgrade their facilities. These hospitals are expected to receive seismic compliance extensions this year.

Assemblymember O'Donnell issued the following statement:

"I will continue to work with the City and the community to keep the only hospital on the east side of the city open. Community Hospital is an asset to the greater Long Beach area. I urge the City of Long Beach to develop a seismic compliance plan as soon as possible so we can move forward."

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Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell represents the 70th Assembly District, which includes Long Beach, Signal Hill, San Pedro and Catalina Island.