



Statement of Senator Dianne Feinstein on new GAO Report
Detailing Tsunami Danger to Coastal Areas

June 5, 2006

Washington, DC – The Government Accounting Office today issued a report indicating that our nation is unprepared to deal with a major tsunami. The report was requested by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.). The following is her statement:

“It’s been more than a year and a half since our eyes were opened to the danger posed by tsunamis.

Yet, as this GAO report indicates, California and other states are at risk of a catastrophic tsunami, and we are ill-equipped to deal with the threat.

We need a warning system to protect the most vulnerable communities. We don’t have that now. So I will work to fund critical aspects of such a program, including:

- **Software to determine where a tsunami is most likely to hit and do the most damage;**
- **Testing of warning systems in all at-risk states; and**
- **Preparedness training in the communities most at risk.**

We’ve seen the danger. Now is the time to respond.”

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