

ALEX PADILLA

U.S. SENATOR  CALIFORNIA

Fire Safe Electrical Corridors Act

Across the West, utility-caused wildfires are increasing in frequency and scale. Three of the largest and most destructive wildfires in California history — the 2017 Thomas Fire, the 2018 Camp Fire, and the 2021 Dixie Fire — were started by electrical equipment. Together, these wildfires burned more than 1.2 million acres, destroyed more than 15,000 homes, and killed 87 people.

This bill that would allow the U.S. Forest Service to approve the removal of hazardous trees near power lines on federal forest lands without requiring a timber sale, thereby easing the removal of hazardous trees and reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire.

What the *Fire Safe Electrical Corridors Act* would do:

- Allow the Forest Service to provide standing permission for electrical utilities to cut and remove hazardous trees near power lines **within existing rights-of-way** without requiring a timber sale.
- Require any utility that sells marketable forest products from hazardous trees removed near power lines to return any proceeds to the Forest Service.