

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2269

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to permit removal of trees around electrical lines on National Forest System land without conducting a timber sale, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 12, 2023

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to permit removal of trees around electrical lines on National Forest System land without conducting a timber sale, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fire Safe Electrical
5 Corridors Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMITS AND AGREEMENTS WITH ELECTRICAL**
2 **UTILITIES.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—In any special use permit or ease-
4 ment on National Forest System land provided to an elec-
5 trical utility, the Secretary of Agriculture may provide per-
6 mission to cut and remove trees or other vegetation from
7 within the vicinity of distribution lines or transmission
8 lines without requiring a separate timber sale, if that cut-
9 ting and removal is consistent with—

10 (1) the applicable land and resource manage-
11 ment plan; and

12 (2) other applicable environmental laws (includ-
13 ing regulations).

14 (b) **USE OF PROCEEDS.**—A special use permit or
15 easement that includes permission for cutting and removal
16 described in subsection (a) shall include a requirement
17 that, if the applicable electrical utility sells any portion
18 of the material removed under the permit or easement,
19 the electrical utility shall provide to the Secretary of Agri-
20 culture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service,
21 any proceeds received from the sale, less any transpor-
22 tation costs incurred in the sale.

23 (c) **EFFECT.**—Nothing in subsection (b) shall require
24 the sale of any material removed under a permit or ease-

- 1 ment that includes permission for cutting and removal de-
- 2 scribed in subsection (a).

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