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## California: The Burning State

California's climate change and energy reforms are setting examples for the rest of our nation after having been impacted so directly ("[California's burning landscape is proof of rapid climate change](#)," Feinstein, September 11). California's work to lower their impact as a state is admirable, but similar attitudes must be adopted by global leaders to reverse hundreds of years of climate change.

There is no doubt that the increase in both frequency and size of fires in California can be attributed to our warming planet. The AGU mentions that "average summer temperatures in the state have risen 3.25 degrees Fahrenheit since 1896". They also predict that "wildfires could grow exponentially in the next 40 years, as temperatures continue to rise".

The Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act, introduced by Senators Dianne Feinstein and Steve Daines, protects communities from the ever more dangerous wildfires. This immediate action is important but means nothing if legislators are unwilling spread green initiatives nationwide.

How can we help California and other areas affected by these effects of climate change if we are unwilling to make major changes? One state's actions simply are not enough to reverse what has already been done.

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*Kupfer served as the Acting Deputy Secretary, Chief Operating Officer, Chief of Staff of the Department of Energy under the George W. Bush Administration. He currently serves as the President of ConservAmerica, which educates the public and engages elected officials to promote commonsense, market-based solutions to today's environmental and energy challenges.*