

SB 1646 Protects Texas' Critical Infrastructure

The Problem:



60+ PERCENT

From 2022-2024, AT&T has seen a **more than 60% increase** in copper thefts.



20 INCIDENTS

In Texas, AT&T averaged nearly **20 incidents** a week in 2024.



500 PERCENT

The price of copper has **increased 500%** since January 2000.

Senate Bill 1646 (King) combats copper theft & fiber vandalism through:



Stiffer Penalties

Strengthens criminal penalties for ***intentional*** copper wire & fiber optic cuts that damage and negatively impact critical infrastructure - like ***emergency services***.



Ban Unauthorized Possession

Prohibits the possession of copper and brass materials used by utilities unless authorized.



Increase Reporting Requirements

Enhances metal recycling reporting requirements to prevent illegal copper wire transactions.

Copper wire thefts & fiber vandalism are
risks to public safety & national security.