



March 19, 2021

Senator Kerry Donovan
State Capital Building
200 East Colfax Avenue RM 346
Denver, CO 80203
kerry.donovan.senate@state.co.us

Representative Julie McCluskie
State Capital Building
200 East Colfax Avenue RM 307
Denver, CO 80203
julie.mccluskie@house.state.co.us

**Vote “YES” HB21-1117
Clarify Local Government Authority to Promote Affordable Housing Units**

Dear Senator Donovan and Representative McCluskie:

Monday floor vote is go time. One of the top priorities we adopted in our 2021 Policy Agenda is Affordable Housing. This policy area includes deed restricted and free market owner-occupied and rental housing units which house Aspen and Pitkin County residents whose annual income is up to 240% of AMI. Affordable housing is essential to the economic and social health and sustainability our Roaring Fork Valley. It is our lifeblood.

In the face of some of the highest housing and construction costs in the United States, the City of Aspen is focused on the provision of quality affordable housing to ensure the continued viability of the community. Affordable housing is mentioned 105 times in our Aspen Area Community Plan – an adopted guiding document from 2012. As such, we advocate for State and Federal policies and regulations which support our local affordable housing program, the Aspen Pitkin County Housing Authority.

HB21-1117 clarifications will allow us to tailor our affordable housing requirements to meet our resident needs. It is our fiscal responsibility to develop publicly-funded housing, including involvement in and creation of non-mitigation affordable housing. Regionally, we continue to add to our inventory to house our year-round population. This cooperation amongst neighboring communities will allow us to continue to aspire and cultivate the most vibrant mountain community – diverse, connected, healthy, and thriving. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Skippy Mesirov", is placed over a blue DocuSign signature line.

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Skippy Mesirov, CITY COUNCIL
Torre, MAYOR, Ward Hauenstein, MAYOR PRO-TEM,
Ann Mullins, Rachael Richards CITY COUNCIL