



June 23, 2021

**City of Aspen Support for SHRED Act
Ski Hill Resources for Economic Development Act of 2021**

As a mountain resort municipality with over 1,100 acres of open space being 'locally secured' and protected by taxpayer funded acquisitions situated within a county comprised of thousands of acres of federal BLM and Forest Service lands, we are committed to preserving and protecting these vital resources as well as enhancing our natural surroundings. The Ski Fee Retention legislation (SHRED Act) keeps ski fees local and supports winter recreation. Thank you SHRED Act.

Our ski town is in parallel alignment with the SHRED Act. This bipartisan, bicameral legislation allows national forests to retain fees generated by ski areas to support local recreation needs. Public lands encompass 88% of Pitkin County, those of which provide essential resources, landscapes, and recreation opportunities, in turn supporting the health and sustainability of our community, economy, and ecosystems. Thank you SHRED Act.

It is a top priority to preserve open space for recreational use, wildlife habitat, scenic view planes and sustainment of our agricultural heritage. To maintain proper management of our public lands, mitigate community impacts from natural disasters, ensure ecological health and biodiversity, and provide diverse recreation opportunities we need the funding. Thank you SHRED Act.

Lands and resources are an embodied Aspen principle. We advocate for sustainability and prioritization of climate and environmental action. Our community supports policy that delivers proactive forest management, wildfire mitigation, federal lands management that balances recreation development and commercial uses with conservation, all while ensuring the long-term health and biodiversity of public lands and adequate funding for Forest Service. Thank you SHRED Act.

We appreciate the formula allocated for the retained ski area fee revenues. This small step forward will enable the underfunded services to maintain the large footprint our environment is experiencing by so many. Thank you SHRED Act.

Torre, MAYOR and Ward Hauenstein, Mayor pro tem, John Doyle, Skippy Mesirow and Rachael Richards, ASPEN CITY COUNCIL