

September 16, 2021

The Honorable Jon Tester
United States Senate
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Tester,

We, the undersigned Montana small business owners, write to thank you for your leadership in crafting the bipartisan infrastructure bill and supporting the budget resolution. Both of which further the bold and necessary public investments in climate smart solutions, clean energy and tens of thousands of good-paying jobs. We applaud your commitment to protect Montana's outdoor way of life and urge you to continue the fight.

As our senior Senator, you've kept your promise to do what's best for Montana. Now, you're in the unique position to continue representing those same Montana values as Congress considers crucial investments in the U.S.'s infrastructure. These critical projects can help reshape Montanans' future by addressing the climate crisis while also helping businesses drive robust economic growth throughout the state. We can and must do both.

In a recent poll, a clear majority of Montanans supported the American Jobs Plan's provisions to create new jobs in manufacturing by investing in clean energy technologies like wind turbines, solar panels and electric vehicles. Additionally, nearly 60 percent of Montana voters surveyed supported the American Jobs Plan's proposal to transition to a 100 percent carbon-free electricity grid by 2035.

Furthermore, according to a recent study done by the Montana Office of Outdoor Recreation, Montana's outdoor recreation economy is the U.S.'s second largest, accounting for 5.1 percent of the state's GDP, or \$2.4 billion annually. But the money extends across all aspects of the state's economy; for every \$1 million spent in conservation activities, between 17 and 31 Montana jobs are supported. Those investments support jobs in a wide range of industries, from retail to hospitality to high tech and countless others. Protecting our outdoor spaces makes dollars and sense for our small businesses.

In a state that boasts some of the most beautiful National Parks, forests, rivers and wildlife in the world, Montanans know firsthand just how important it is to protect and conserve our outdoor spaces for future generations. It is why we and our employees choose to live here. We urge you to continue highlighting the vital role Montana's environment plays in our state. We ask you to keep up the fight and make sure Congress passes all of the necessary public investments needed to revolutionize our economy, fight climate change, drive clean energy innovations and create millions of good-paying jobs across the country.

Senator Tester, please continue to be a champion for our Montana way of life and support bold climate solutions essential to the future of our state and its economy.

Sincerely,

Baker Light Industries, Ennis
Beartooth Group, Bozeman
Biomimicry 3.8, Missoula
Bozeman Green Build, Bozeman
Brandborg and Associates, SBS Solar, Hamilton
Bridger Bowl Ski Area, Bozeman

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Saint Ignatius
Dahlman Ranch, Forsyth
Eventgroove, Harlowton & Bozeman
Great Bear Native Plants, Hamilton
HaydenTanner, Bigfork

High Plains Architects, Billings
In Our Nature Guiding Services, LLC, Gardiner
Kamut International, Missoula
Montago Coffee, Helena
Montana Book Company, Helena
NorthFork Financial, Bozeman
Northstone Solar, LLC, Whitefish
O2 Architects, Billings
Oasis Montana, Inc., Stevensville
OnSite Energy, Inc., Bozeman
Onyx Studio, Bozeman
Open Range Food and Drink, Bozeman
Prismatic, Bozeman
Rock Climb Montana, Whitefish
Spark R&D, Bozeman
Stumptown Snowboards, Whitefish
Sturdy Girl, Helena
The Dram Shop, Missoula
Treeline Coffee Roasters, Bozeman
Tumbleweed Bookstore and Cafe, Gardiner
Vino per Tutti, Bozeman
West Paw, Bozeman
Wild Joe*s Coffee Spot, Bozeman