



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, August 12, 2022

The Mountain Pact Relieved Congress Has Passed Inflation Reduction Act

DURANGO, CO -- In reaction to the final passing of the [Inflation Reduction Act of 2022](#) in Congress, Anna Peterson, Executive Director of [The Mountain Pact](#), a coalition of local elected officials from Western mountain communities, issued the following statement:

"We are so relieved that Congress has passed the single biggest U.S. investment to tackle climate change - ever.

We are thrilled that many of the oil and gas leasing reforms we have been pushing for for years have been included in the final bill like an end to non-competitive leasing and an increase in leasing royalty rates - rates that haven't been updated for over one-hundred years.

Year-round climate emergencies like [wildfires](#), [flooding](#), [mudslides](#), [smoke-filled air](#), and [drought](#) put a [strain](#) on already under-resourced [health](#) departments and harm our [air quality](#), [health](#), [lands](#), and [waters](#). Climate impacts are also incredibly expensive for local communities and negatively impact our [tourist](#), [outdoor](#) and [agricultural](#) economies.

Local elected leaders and [two-thirds of Americans have been calling for climate action](#) for decades. While there is still more federal climate action that can and should be taken by the Biden administration, we are thankful this bold action will help to address the climate crisis' costly impacts that are devastating our communities, lands, waters, and health."

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Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) mobilizes local elected officials in over 80 Western mountain communities with outdoor recreation based economies to speak with a collective voice on federal climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation policy.