

HON. E. WAYNE PHILLIPS,
DISTRICT JUDGE

P.O. Box 1124
Lewistown, MT 59457



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January 25, 2005

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 1/27/05
HB 326

Diane Rice, Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
Montana House of Representatives
P. O. Box 200400
Helena, MT 59620-0400

Dear Chairman Rice and Members of the Committee:

I wish to lend my support to HB 326, both generally and specifically. First, from a general court perspective, we desperately need effective treatment for methamphetamine users. I currently have two separate cases before my court terminating parental rights because of addiction to this drug. The costs to community and family are enormous, whether one looks at the social and personal fabric of children's lives or at costs for interim and long-term foster care, incarceration, supervision, etc.

Second, from a personal perspective, I am exceptionally impressed with the caring partnerships developed by the Lewistown community to address this problem. One of these partnerships has proposed a Lewistown-based meth treatment facility. I can tell you that the local commitment is tremendous. This community will support such a facility with all its heart.

From both perspectives, I strongly encourage your support of HB 326.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wayne Phillips".

Hon. E. Wayne Phillips