

**WALLACE A. JEWELL  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
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1/27/05  
265-262

HB 262

January 26, 2005

TO: Members of the House Judiciary Committee

RE: House Bill 262 Introduced by Representative Lange

Ladies and Gentlemen:

First I must apologize for not being present in person but the press of court business prevents me from being able to testify in person. Please accept this letter from Judge Mary Jane Knisely as my testimony in support of House Bill 262.

While the justice court in Lewis and Clark County is not a municipal court we are a court of record and must follow similar guidelines of section 3-10-116, MCA. If that section of law were also amended as proposed to conform to House Bill 262 section 3 it would enable both the justice courts of record and the municipal courts to more easily find a judge pro tempore.

I urge you to amend House Bill 262 as suggested and to give it a do pass recommendation from the Committee.

Sincerely,

Wallace A. Jewell