

EXHIBIT 3  
DATE 2-1-2011  
HB \_\_\_\_\_



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
200 W BROADWAY ST  
MISSOULA MT 59802-4292

BCC 2011-015  
January 31, 2011

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The Montana Department of Corrections  
Director Mike Ferriter  
5 S. Last Chance Gulch  
PO Box 201301  
Helena MT 59620-1301

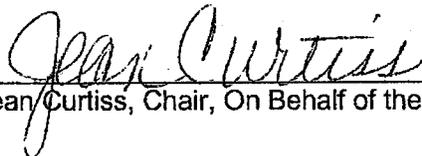
Director Ferriter:

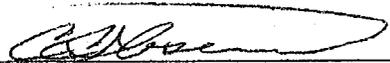
Thanks to you and your staff for taking the time to meet last week. It was helpful to hear more specific information related to the Department of Corrections proposal to revert the Missoula County Detention Center (MCDC) back to a regional prison.

We understand the Department anticipates a need for new secured bed space and MCDC could be adapted to help fit that need. We agree that this is possible under the parameters discussed, such as low-security inmates, short-term stays (approximately 18 months) and a restricted amount of programming (such as hobbies and industries). However, we still contend that the MASC program is the most appropriate use of the Missoula facility. Without the ability to have programs such as hobbies and industries that help longer-term inmates pass the time, we are very concerned that managing this population would be increasingly difficult. Additionally, there is no doubt that this type of inmate is going to cost more to hold at this facility, and we are concerned about the Department's ability to pay the increased costs.

We seriously considered the Department's proposal and hope you understand our position. We look forward to our continued relationship with the Department of Corrections.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
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Jean Curtiss, Chair, On Behalf of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Ibsen, Missoula County Sheriff

BCC/rm