



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Charles D. Baker, Governor ♦ Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor ♦ Jennifer D. Maddox, Undersecretary

August 10, 2021

Michelle Bibeau
Executive Director
Merrimac Housing Authority
180 Main Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

Re: Grant of Waiver from Requirement that Town Appoint a Tenant Board Member (Waiver 2: No Person Eligible and Willing to Serve as Tenant Board Member)

Dear Executive Director,

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 121B, § 5A, this letter serves as a statutory waiver of the requirement contained in M.G.L. c. 121B, § 5 that a Town appoint a Tenant Board Member to the Town's Local Housing Authority ("LHA").

Upon review of the materials provided with the LHA's waiver request of 06/06/2021, the Department is satisfied that, despite the LHA providing tenants/rental assistance participants with the required notices, there is no person eligible and willing to serve as the Town Appointed Tenant Board Member. As such, the Department is granting a statutory waiver from the requirements of M.G.L. c. 121B, § 5 that the Town appoint a Tenant Board Member to the LHA's Board. The Town may appoint someone other than a person who is eligible to be the Town Appointed Tenant Board Member to fill the seat for a one-year period.

This waiver is valid for one year from the date of this letter but may be renewed for one-year periods so long as there remains no person eligible and willing to serve as the Town Appoint Tenant Board Member.

The LHA must post this waiver on its website and in its common areas. The LHA must notify its Local Tenant Organization(s), if any, of the grant of this waiver.

If you have any questions regarding this waiver, please contact your Housing Management Specialist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fatima Razzaq'.

Fatima Razzaq,
Acting Director,
Division of Public Housing

cc. Gwendolyn Lay Sabbagh, Town Clerk
Candie Benjamin, LHA Board Chair