

TOWN OF HAWLEY  
MASSACHUSETTS 01339

TOWN OFFICE:  
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October 31, 2017

Jan Sullivan, Acting Director  
Bureau of Environmental Health  
MADPH  
250 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Sullivan,

The Hawley Selectboard / Board of Health is writing in support of a proposed revision to the Housing Code, 105 CMR 410.

The proposed revision, Sections 410.450 and 410.710, would offer a mechanism whereby a local Board of Health such as ours can offer a permit which complies with the spirit and intent of the Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation, while also giving residents housing options which can be less environmentally impactful on our planet. This choice brings within reach other critical benefits to our rural homeowners such as the ability to age-in-place by downsizing and living off the grid.

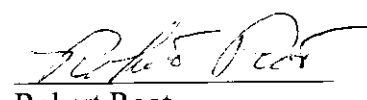
All told, Section 410.450 and 410.710 represents a localized, progressive, and modernized addition to the code which still meets healthful standards for habitation. The permitting requirements are well crafted to protect the maintenance of these standards through the legal transfer of the property and through any further modifications.

We sincerely appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and will hopefully look forward to sharing the benefits with our Hawley residents.

Sincerely,

  
Hussain Hamdan, Chairman

  
Robert MacLean

  
Robert Root

Hawley Board of Selectmen  
Hawley Board of Health

cc: Jana Ferguson, Deputy Director  
Paul Halfmann, Assistant Director  
Glen Ayers, Regional Health Agent, FC Cooperative Public Health Service