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The Honorable Melinda E. Barrett
Mayor, City of Haverhill
4 Summer Street Haverhill, MA 01830

Dear Mayor Barrett:

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Haverhill Board of Health. I am a board-certified neurologist and have practiced in Haverhill since April 2025 as the owner of Greenleaf Neurology, PLLC. I would welcome the chance to put that clinical experience to work for the city's public health.

Much of what I see in the clinic begins upstream of the exam room. Stroke outcomes depend on how quickly residents recognize symptoms and reach care. Concussions in youth and school sports often go unreported. Dementia increasingly shapes how families, housing and emergency services function. Childhood lead exposure, still a concern in older housing stock, causes neurological harm that cannot be reversed. These are public health problems as much as clinical ones, and I would bring a specialist's perspective to them.

I also understand that a Board of Health's day-to-day work is largely regulatory: housing and sanitary code, food establishments, septic systems, tobacco and nicotine sales, and disease control. I am prepared to learn that work thoroughly, to read the record before each meeting, and to rely on the Health Department's professional staff. My aim would be sound, evidence-based decisions that residents can trust.

Running a small medical practice has taught me to weigh costs, read regulations closely, and make decisions that affect real people's access to care. I also serve as the President of the Greenleaf Neurological Foundation, a non-profit focused on neurological research and public education. Should any matter before the Board involve my practice or the foundation, I would disclose it and recuse myself as the state conflict-of-interest law requires.

Thank you for considering my interest. I would be glad to meet with you or to provide my CV and references.

Respectfully,

Alexandra Filippakis, D.O.

Neurologist-in-Chief