

Massachusetts Libraries

BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS

mass.gov/mbic

PETITION FOR WAIVER OF THE FY2026 MUNICIPAL APPROPRIATION REQUIREMENT

The municipality of _____ hereby petitions the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for a waiver of the Municipal Appropriation Requirement (MAR) for Fiscal Year 2026.

Signature, Library Director: _____ Date: _____

Signature, Library Trustee Chair: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE NOTE: The 5 year waiver plan is in effect.

This petition is due postmarked by October 3, 2025 and the following four (4) items must be postmarked by November 7, 2025 (**additional items may be required if you are applying for a waiver in consecutive years):**

1. Signed, completed **FY2025/FY2026 Total Municipal Operating Budget/Disproportionate Cut Worksheet**
 - a. usually filled out by the municipality's financial officer (i.e. town accountant)
2. Supporting municipal budget document(s), summarizing the *final* FY2025 and *proposed* FY2026 total operating and departmental budgets for the municipality
3. One letter from a municipal official:
 - a. citing the fiscal hardship surrounding the municipality's inability to meet the FY2026 MAR
 - b. explaining the municipality's FY2026 budget process regarding the library
 - c. providing evidence that any reduction to the library budget is not disproportionate relative to changes in other municipal departments and the overall municipal budget
4. One letter from the library director and trustee chair:
 - a. explaining the library's FY2026 budget process and reasons why the municipality did not comply with the FY2026 MAR
5. ** If your library/municipality is applying for a consecutive year in a row, you must also submit the applicable Waiver Year Plan.

Please answer the following questions:

1. Has the municipality held an election to raise revenues beyond the limitations of Proposition 2½ for FY2026?

YES ☐ NO ☐

DATE OF ELECTION _____

If YES, what was the result of the election? PASSED ☐ FAILED ☐

2. Is further budgetary action expected that might increase the municipality's FY2026 appropriation to the library?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If YES, what form of action is expected? a) Override referendum ☐ b) Capital exclusion ☐

c) Debt exclusion ☐ d) Budget revision ☐ e) Other (please specify) _____

Proposed Date(s) of above action(s) _____

**THIS PETITION MUST BE sent electronically to uechi.ng@mass.gov BY OCTOBER 3, 2025
THE ADDITIONAL 4 ITEMS** MUST BE SENT BY NOVEMBER 7, 2025.**