## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

DIVISION OF CORPORATION FINANCE

August 15,

2019 Joseph F. Lawler JFL Partners Fund LP 2110 Ranch Road 620 S, #341732 Lakeway, Texas 78734

Re: Merrimack Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

PRRN14A preliminary proxy statement filing made on Schedule 14A

Filed on August 13, 2019 by JFL Partners Fund LP, et al.

File No. 001-35409

Dear Mr. Lawler,

We have reviewed the above-captioned filing, and have the following comments. Some  $\,$ 

of our comments may ask for additional information so that we may better understand the disclosure.

Please respond to this letter by amending the filing and/or by providing the requested  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left($ 

information. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances, and/or do

not believe an amendment is appropriate, please tell us why in a written response.

After reviewing any amendment to the filing and any information provided in response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Schedule 14A

Letter to Stockholders

1. Please refer to the following statement: "You can only vote for the Company's directors by

signing and returning a proxy card provided by the Company." Please qualify this statement

by indicating that stockholders may also vote for the Company's nominees via Internet.

telephone or in person at the Annual Meeting.

- 2. The letter to shareholders references the "incumbent management slate." Given that the not
- all of the director candidates who populate the slate are incumbents, please revise to remove  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$
- the implication that execution of the registrant's proxy card will only result in the reelection

of directors who are presently serving Merrimack.

Background to the Solicitation, page 5

- 3. Please refer to the following statement: "On February 13, 2019, Dr. Lawler and Dr. Peters  $\,$
- $\,$  met in Boston, Massachusetts for dinner. The parties discussed the Company generally." If
- Dr. Lawler indicated at the February 13, 2019 meeting that JFL Capital was considering
- nominating Dr. Lawler to the Board, such a discussion would be specific and not "general"  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Specific}}$

as represented. Please revise or advise.

Joseph F. Lawler

JFL Partners Fund LP

August 15, 2019

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- 4. Please refer to the following statement: "On April 5, 2019, Dr. Lawler had a telephone
- conversation with Dr. Peters and Ms. Franchi. During the call, the parties discussed the  $\,$
- discontinuation of the Company's drug candidate MM-310." If Dr. Lawler also inquired
- about potential strategic transactions, including the possibility of a reverse merger with a
  - privately held company, please revise. In addition, if an April 10, 2019

discussion occurred

with the registrant in which Mr. English inquired as to whether Merrimack's management

was considering a reverse merger as one strategic alternative, please revise to include that

information to remove the implication that the discussions were solely related to operations.

Total Shareholder Return, page 10

5. The participants assert that "...(...the Company's total shareholder returns have been

negative over nearly every period outside of the last year)..." Please provide us with the

factual foundation for this statement and specifically address the calculation of total returns

from March 2012 through "its peak" in April 2015. Alternatively, please delete or modify

the statement. Refer to Note b. of Rule 14a-9.

We remind you that the participants are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of its disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

You may contact me at (202) 551-3266 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Nicholas P.

**Panos** 

Nicholas P. Panos Senior Special

Counsel Office of Mergers

& Acquisitions

cc: Steve Wolosky, Esq.

Ryan Nebel, Esq.