

State of New Jersey CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION P.O. BOX 216 TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0216

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY *Lt. Governor* DIANNA HOUENOU, Chair SAMUEL DELGADO, Vice Chair KRISTA NASH, Commissioner MARIA DEL CID-KOSSO, Commissioner CHARLES BARKER, Commissioner CHRIS RIGGS, Acting Executive Director

RESOLUTION 2025-<u>02-18-02</u> DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO DENY FOR FAILURES TO CURE A LICENSE APPLICATION AND TO APPROVE OR DENY CONDITIONAL LICENSE APPLICATIONS

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission ("the Commission"), established pursuant to P.L.2019, c.153, known and cited as the "Jake Honig Compassionate Use Medical Cannabis Act," ("Honig Act") is charged with implementing the provisions of the Honig Act as well as P.L.2021, c.16, known and cited as the "New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act" ("CREAMM Act"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-24(c)(1), the Commission has established a plan of organization under the direct supervision of a full-time Executive Director for the Commission; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-24(e), the Commission may designate its powers and authority as it deems necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties and implement the provisions of the Honig Act and the CREAMM Act; and

WHEREAS, the Commission approved and adopted a set of bylaws on January 27, 2022, of which section 3.12 allows the Commission to delegate authority to one of more members of the Commission's staff as it deems necessary and appropriate to carry out its duties and statutory obligations; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 17:30-6.1 through -7.15 outline the application process and requirements for both conditional license applicants and annual license applicants, including eligibility requirements; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 17:30-18.1 through -18.5 outlines the application process and requirements for testing laboratory license applicants, including eligibility requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Commission's Notice of Application Acceptance ("Notice") outlines the specific criteria for the types of applications the Commission would accept, and the dates on which the Commission would begin accepting those applications; and

WHEREAS, the Notice also outlined the specific priority by which applications would be reviewed by the Commission; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-6.1(d), the Commission shall review and score conditional cannabis business license applications based on the priority designation of applications as set forth in the regulation and the Notice; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-6.1(d), applications must receive a full score or greater in order to be approved; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.2 through -7.5 outlines the requirements for conditional license applications, including eligibility requirements; and

WHEREAS, to review applications thoroughly and efficiently, the Commission developed an application review process for each application received; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.2(g), N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.7(g), N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.9(h), and N.J.A.C. 17:30-18.2(k), if the Commission deems a conditional or annual license application incomplete because of a failure to address all applicable criteria and measures or to provide requested information, the license application shall be returned to the license applicant with direction on how to appropriately cure any deficiencies and resubmit the application; and

WHEREAS, upon resubmission of a cured application, the application shall be placed in line for review in accordance with its priority designation and the time at which it was resubmitted; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has received numerous applications that have not been cured, and the Commission must dispose of the pending license application; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that it is in the public interest to streamline Commission business and create greater operational efficiency by designating to the Executive Director or his designee the Commission's authority to accept, review, and act on the aforementioned items under the Commission's regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission, that the authority to make decisions regarding conditional and annual license applications is delegated to the Executive Director or his designee as follows:

- 1. The Executive Director, or his designee, shall have the authority to deny conditional and annual license applications for a failure to cure a license application; and
- 2. The Executive Director, or his designee, shall have the authority to approve or deny conditional license applications in accordance with N.J.A.C 17:30-7.2. Applications to renew an annual license shall continue to be presented to the Board for a final agency decision.

The final agency decisions for approved conditional license applications shall continue to note that approval of a conditional license, or issuance of a conditional license, does not authorize the license holder to engage in cannabis activities.

The Executive Director, or his designee, shall, as soon as practicable, notify the Commission's

Board of any decisions made pursuant to the authority(ies) delegated by this Resolution and provide the Board with any materials relied upon for decision-making. The Executive Director, or the director's designee, shall notify the Board of a conditional license approval before issuing the conditional license to the applicant.

The authorities delegated herein shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by the Commission.

Submitted by:

Dianna Houenou, Chair

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Cannabis Regulatory Commission at its meeting held on the 18th day of February 2025.

Dave & Curr Dave Tuason, Chief Counsel

Vote on the Approval of This Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Barker						Х
Commissioner Del Cid-Kosso	X		Х			
Vice Chair Delgado		Х	Х			
Chairwoman Houenou			Х			
Commissioner Nash			Х			