



State of New Jersey
CANNABIS REGULATORY COMMISSION

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

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TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

DIANNA HOUEYOU, *Chair*
KRISTA NASH, *Commissioner*
MARIA DEL CID-KOSSO, *Commissioner*
SAMUEL DELGADO, *Commissioner*
AMELIA MAPP, *Commissioner*
CHRIS RIGGS, *Acting Executive Director*

RESOLUTION 2025-06-12-02
APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION'S 2024 REPORT ON RECOMMENDED USES OF
SOCIAL EQUITY EXCISE FEES

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-50(d)(1)(a), not less than 60 days prior to the first day of each State fiscal year, the Commission shall consult and make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for making social equity appropriations based upon the amount of any revenues collected during the current fiscal year for the Social Equity Excise Fee pursuant to section 39 of the CREAMM Act, N.J.S.A. 54:47F-1, or, if the Commission has not imposed or adjusted the excise fee in the current fiscal year pursuant to that section, then appropriations to be made from the General Fund in an amount equal to the revenues that would have been collected had it imposed or adjusted the fee, in order to invest, through grants, loans, reimbursements of expenses, and other financial assistance, in private for-profit and non-profit organizations, public entities, including any municipality defined as an "impact zone" pursuant to section 3 of the CREAMM Act, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-33, as well as provide direct financial assistance to qualifying persons as determined by the Commission, in order to create, expand, or promote educational and economic opportunities and activities, and the health and well-being of both communities and individuals; and

WHEREAS, pursuant N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(1)(b), not less than 30 days prior to submitting its recommendations to the Governor and Legislature pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(1)(a), the Commission shall hold at least three regional public hearings throughout the State, with at least one hearing in the northern, central, and southern regions of the State, to solicit the public input on the social equity investments to be made as described in this section; and

WHEREAS, pursuant N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(2), the Commission's recommendations to the Governor and Legislature may include, but are not limited to, recommending investments in the following categories of social equity programs: (a) educational support, including literacy

programs, extended learning time programs that endeavor to close the achievement gap and provide services for enrolled students after the traditional school day, GED application and preparedness assistance, tutoring programs, vocational programming, and financial literacy; (b) economic development, including the encouragement and support of community activities so as to stimulate economic activity or increase or preserve residential amenities, and business marketing, and job skills and readiness training, specific employment training, and apprenticeships; (c) social support services, including food assistance, mental health services, substance use disorders treatment and recovery, youth recreation and mentoring services, life skills support services, and reentry and other rehabilitative services for adults and juveniles being released from incarceration; and (d) legal aid for civil and criminal cases; and

WHEREAS, pursuant N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(3), the Commission may also, subject to the annual appropriations act, recommend that it retain a portion of the Social Equity Excise Fee to administer startup grants, low-interest loans, application fee assistance, and job training programs through the Commission's Office of Minority, Disabled Veterans and Women Cannabis Business Development established by section 32 of the Honig Act, N.J.S.A.24:6I-25; and

WHEREAS, pursuant N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(4), prior to the first day of each fiscal year, the Legislature shall provide to the Commission a statement which lists the investments, including the investment recipients and investment amount, to be made by the appropriations as set forth in N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(1) based upon recommendations presented to the Governor and Legislature pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(1)-(3), and how the investment is intended to support and advance social equity as described in this section; and

WHEREAS, the Commission prepared a report with recommendations to the Governor and Legislature for making social equity appropriations based upon the amount of revenues collected during the current fiscal year for the Social Equity Excise Fee pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50(d)(1)(a); and

WHEREAS, on February 20, February 25, and February 26 of 2025, the Commission conducted virtual public hearings throughout the State, and solicited public input on the recommended social equity investments to be made; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-50, that the Commission's report on the recommended social equity appropriations based on the revenues collected during the current fiscal year for the Social Equity Excise Fee is hereby **APPROVED**.

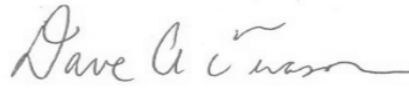
Submitted by:



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 12th day of June, 2025.



Dave Tuason, Chief Counsel

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