

New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission  
 Public In-Writing Comments  
Public Meeting: April 23, 2026

Full Name	Meeting Date	Comment
Marissa Laberdee	4.23.2026	<p>Dear NJCRC,</p> <p>Hemp beverages are currently being sold in cannabis dispensaries under different rules than regulated THC products, even though they are reaching the same consumers.</p> <p>This is already undercutting the regulated cannabis market and slowing the development of new product categories like beverages.</p> <p>I support creating alignment so that products sold in dispensaries are produced, tested, and regulated consistently.</p> <p>New Jersey should support its licensed businesses, local farmers, and a fair, stable market.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Respectfully Marissa Laberdee</p>
Justin Prekeris	4.23.2026	<p>The allowance of hemp-beverages to be sold in licensed dispensaries de-legitimizes the entire legal cannabis industry and directly undercuts legal operators. Hemp beverages are not subject to the same regulatory scrutiny, and as a result are able to sold for significantly less than beverages grown, manufactured and sold in New Jersey. Additionally, consumers have little-to-no insight as to where the hemp is being sourced, where it's being manufactured, and whether or not it passes lab tests for contaminants such as pesticides, bacteria, or heavy metals. The purpose of these strict regulations are to protect consumers and create a transparent supply chain. These products directly circumvent that and should not be sold at NJ licensed retailers (or liquor stores for that fact). In summary, why do some products/brands have to follow all of the regulatory framework for New Jersey, but others don't?</p>
Joseph Kannegiesser	4.23.2026	<p>Dear NJCRC,</p> <p>Hemp beverages are currently being sold in cannabis dispensaries under different rules than regulated THC products, even though they are reaching the same consumers.</p> <p>This is already undercutting the regulated cannabis market and slowing the development of new product categories like beverages.</p>

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<p>Miles Cordero</p>	<p>4.23.2026</p>	<p>Dear NJCRC,</p> <p>Hemp beverages are currently being sold in cannabis dispensaries under different rules than regulated THC products, even though they are reaching the same consumers.</p> <p>This is already undercutting the regulated cannabis market and slowing the development of new product categories like beverages.</p> <p>I support creating alignment so that products sold in dispensaries are produced, tested, and regulated consistently.</p> <p>New Jersey should support its licensed businesses, local farmers, and a fair, stable market.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Respectfully Miles Cordero</p>
<p>Brendon Robinson</p>		<p>As Chairman of the New Jersey Cannabis Chamber of Commerce, I am submitting this comment to bring forward feedback we have received from licensed cannabis retailers across the State of New Jersey regarding current delivery limitations.</p> <p>A consistent concern raised by operators is the restriction limiting cannabis delivery exclusively to residential addresses. Retailers report frequent consumer demand for delivery to lawful locations such as workplaces, hotels, and private venues, but these requests that cannot currently be fulfilled under existing regulations.</p> <p>Given that New Jersey already requires robust compliance safeguards for delivery transactions, including ID verification at the time of delivery, licensed personnel, and tracked transactions within the regulated system, many operators believe this location based restriction may no longer be necessary to ensure public safety.</p> <p>The NJC3 has compiled feedback from retailers who support evaluating a modernization of delivery regulations that would allow delivery to any verified adult (21+) at lawful locations, while maintaining all existing</p>

		<p>compliance requirements.</p> <p>We believe this represents a practical opportunity to improve consumer access, support struggling retailers, increase regulated market participation, and reduce reliance on illicit delivery services.</p> <p>We respectfully encourage the Commission to consider evaluating this issue further and would welcome the opportunity to engage in a collaborative discussion with the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission on potential pathways forward.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and continued leadership in developing New Jersey’s regulated cannabis marketplace.</p>
<p>Mike Snell</p>	<p>4.23.2026</p>	<p>To the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission — Office of Diversity, Equity &amp; Inclusion:</p> <p>In December 2025, the NJ-CRC unveiled the Social Equity Scorecard — a framework designed to move equity from intent to outcomes through verified actions, documentation, and data. That initiative is the most important equity policy innovation in the country right now. I am writing because Sacramento, California just produced a seven-year case study of exactly why that kind of outcomes measurement architecture is essential — and what happens when a program has process metrics but no binding outcomes accountability.</p> <p>I am Mike Snell, Program Architect of VALOR Sacramento, a 7-pillar equity workforce and economic development framework built through CLTRE (a Sacramento 501(c)(3)) and currently under active engagement with the City of Sacramento. I am a former CORE cannabis equity licensee of Sacramento's second social equity licensed dispensary(Off The Charts).</p> <p>New Jersey has built the most sophisticated cannabis equity architecture in the country — impact zone designations, the Social Equity Scorecard, the largest cannabis social equity grant in the nation (\$250,000 Joint Ventures awards), and a genuinely diverse licensee pool. But the NJ-CRC's own 2025 benchmark report documents the gap between that architecture and its outcomes: as of mid-2025, approximately 89% of licensees hold only conditional licenses, and only 11% of operational businesses are owned by individuals with prior marijuana convictions — the population New Jersey's law most explicitly sought to prioritize.</p> <p>The findings in Sacramento are directly relevant to New Jersey's current trajectory:</p> <p>— Cannabis should never have been the sole recognized equity pathway for these communities. The report documents why — federal illegality, compounded taxation, illicit market competition — and proposes a forward framework (VALOR) in construction trades and</p>

	<p>AI/technology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The equity program designed to compensate them was structurally preempted: program value was captured by restricted-zone landlords, investor consolidators, General Fund tax revenue, and policymakers whose career trajectories were advanced by program visibility —not participants</li> <li>— The conversion gap from licensed to operational is driven by the same cause in every jurisdiction: restricted zoning creates artificial real estate scarcity that captures equity program subsidies before they reach participants. Sacramento's own March 2026 resolution documents a CORE participant still unable to find compliant real estate after fire damage. New Jersey's MCA has acknowledged real estate access as a primary barrier for conditional licensees.</li> <li>— The NJ-CRC chair stated plainly in April 2026: 'Our responsibility has always been to ensure equal opportunity, not equal outcomes. We are regulators, not operators.' Sacramento's seven-year record documents exactly what that posture produces over time: process metrics that protect the program politically while structural changes that would actually redistribute market power are systematically deferred.</li> <li>— VALOR's quarterly public dashboard and mandatory third-party equity audit architecture are the operationalized version of the Social Equity Scorecard's vision — applied to a multi-sector equity program in construction trades and AI/technology that carries none of cannabis's structural handicaps.</li> </ul> <p>I am reaching out because the NJ-CRC's Social Equity Scorecard team and VALOR Sacramento are working on parallel tracks — you from the regulatory side, we from the community implementation side. I believe there is a genuine research and policy exchange here.</p> <p>I would welcome the opportunity to share the full report with your team and explore whether there are ways our respective frameworks can inform each other.</p> <p>Respectfully,</p> <p>Mike Snell  Program Architect, VALOR Sacramento   Built Through CLTRE    3433 Broadway, Sacramento CA 95817</p>
<p>Matha Figaro</p>	<p>First, congratulations to the new Chair and Vice Chair. Leadership transitions matter, and the industry is paying close attention to what comes next.</p> <p>That said, we have more work to do.</p>

		<p>Operators need to see meaningful action from this Commission. The current framework is not keeping pace with the realities of running a compliant, licensed business in New Jersey.</p> <p>It's time to modernize the playbook and meet operators where they actually are.</p> <p>We need greater transparency in decision-making, clearer guidance, and more consistency across departments. Right now, something as fundamental as product approvals can vary depending on the reviewer, which creates unnecessary delays, costs, and uncertainty for businesses already operating under tight constraints.</p> <p>We are not asking for shortcuts. We are asking for clarity, consistency, and efficiency.</p> <p>The Commission has repeatedly stated its commitment to ensuring that businesses like mine succeed. That commitment must be reflected in how processes are executed day-to-day.</p> <p>New Jersey has an opportunity to lead. But that requires alignment between policy intent and operational reality.</p> <p>Myself and the CannPowerment team look forward to continuing to make innovative and meaningful contributions to our industry. We thank you in advance for guidance.</p> <p>Matha Figaro - CannPowerment - ButACake</p>
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