

PHILLIP D. MURPHY Governor

Tahesha L. Way Lt. Governor DIANNA HOUENOU, Chair
KRISTA NASH, Vice Chair
AMELIA MAPP, Commissioner
CHRIS RIGGS, Acting Executive Director

RESOLUTION 2025-<u>08-07-02</u> RESCINDING AUTHORIZATION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PROVISIONAL ATC AND CANNABIS BUSINESS EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION CARD

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," is charged with implementing the provisions of that Act as well as P.L.2021, c.16, known and cited as the "New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30A-8.1(a) the Commission shall issue an alternative treatment center ("ATC") identification card to an ATC employee within 10 business days of receiving a completed application with required documents; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-7(d)(5) permits the Commission to offer provisional authority for individuals to be an employee of an ATC for a period not to exceed three months; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-7 and -44 authorize the Commission to conduct a criminal history background check for individuals interested in participating in the personal use cannabis industry; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6I-44, the Commission promulgated N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12, which details the Commission's criminal history background check process; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-7.12(f), the Commission may, in its discretion, offer provisional authority for a person to be an owner, principal, or employee of a cannabis business or testing laboratory license applicant or license holder for a period not to exceed three months if the person submits to the Commission a sworn statement attesting that the person has not been convicted of any disqualifying conviction; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2024, under Resolution 2024-199, the Commission determined to offer provisional authority for a person to be an employee of an ATC or adult-use cannabis business for a period not to exceed three months if that person's fingerprint results have not been received within 14 days following the date of a fingerprint appointment; and

WHEREAS, prior to adopting Resolution 2024-199, the Commission found that the average time to obtain the ATC identification card between December 19, 2023, and January 18, 2024, was 53.4 days. The Commission further found that between August 2023 and January 2024, the background check results for fewer than 30 out of 1,092 ATC employees took longer than 90 days to obtain; and

WHEREAS, as of March 14, 2025, individuals who do not have any criminal history attached to their profile are, on average, being cleared in under 5 days, and individuals with criminal histories that are not deemed disqualifying are being cleared in under 12 days on average; and

WHEREAS, year to date, the Commission has considered only six applications from individuals with disqualifying convictions, suggesting that disruptions or terminations due to cessation of provisional badging are likely to be minimal;

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that continuing to offer provisional badging is no longer necessary and negatively impacts staff's time and ability to handle other pressing matters;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission that Resolution 2024-199 is hereby rescinded.

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 7th day of August 2025.

Dave Tuason, Chief Counsel

Vote on the Approval of This Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Recused
Chairwoman Houenou			X				
Commissioner Mapp		X	X				
Vice Chair Nash	X		X				