

**New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission**  
**Public In-Writing Comments**  
**Public Meeting: April 13, 2023**

SENDER	DATE	COMMENTS/QUESTIONS
James Brady	3/8/23	There are a total of 4 doctors in all of Monmouth and Ocean County taking pts. Unfortunately my doctor Dr. Cheryl Kennedy passed away. Three of the docs only accept cancer pts and the other is retired. Is there no provision in the law for when a provider passes away? one place I contacted Atlantic Medicine and wellness wants 275 dollar every 3 months to re cert. despite me telling them i already have the card and my renewal is for one year. Please advise.
Venus Smith	3/10/23	Cannabis Grant, unfair & unbelievable! Dear The CRC, How are you? We own a very small CBD storefront in Jersey City and find it completely disheartening that a business opening years after us are the only ones able to access the cannabis grant! Why? It sounds absolutely insane that businesses who invested longer in NJ are being punished. We are a social equity, minority, woman owned small business in a social impact zone and now are being forced to deal with investors because grants are only for new people. I'm not sure why this requirement came along but it needs to go, immediately. Grants should go to deserving people who worked hard to last through that crappy pandemic. These restrictions mean only those who opened specifically for cannabis from everywhere else are eligible for grant money? Downright outrageous!!! New Jersey can do better by its residents who have invested for years into this state and now are not part of being rewarded. Maybe businesses formed after March 2020 should NOT be allowed to apply since they just got here!!! UNBELIEVEABLE!!!
Rashid Taylor	3/15/23	Some municipalities have written within their ordinances that anyone convicted of a drug crime in the state of NJ will be denied a local cannabis business license. This particular wording is totally in opposition to the social equity intent of the regulations, and further entrenches the harm caused by decades of New Jersey cannabis prohibition. West Deptford New Jersey
Susan Lazarchick	4/5/23	I support Home cultivation bills: * S342/A997: Authorizes home cultivation of medical cannabis. * A1422: Legalizes possession of six marijuana plants for personal use. * A3657/S353: Legalizes six plants for personal use and 10 plants for medical
Prefer To Remain Anonymous	4/5/23	Dear Commissioners of the NJ CRC, I am writing to express my sincere concern about the current regulations in place for the cannabis industry in New Jersey. Specifically, I am urging you to add edibles and beverages to the list of products that can be sold by licensed manufacturers and dispensaries.

		<p>As you are likely aware, many states across the country have legalized cannabis for both medical and recreational use. And yet, New Jersey continues to lag behind when it comes to allowing edibles and beverages to be sold legally. This delay is causing significant harm to the industry, and it is impacting the livelihoods of countless manufacturers and consumers.</p> <p>Firstly, allowing edibles and beverages to be sold will create a more diverse marketplace and provide consumers with more options. This will not only increase revenue for the state, but it will also help to stimulate economic growth within the industry. By prohibiting these products, you are limiting the potential for growth and job creation in the cannabis industry.</p> <p>Furthermore, the social equity implications of this delay cannot be ignored. Women manufacturers are disproportionately impacted by the lack of edibles and beverages on the market. These products are often easier and cheaper to produce than other forms of cannabis, making them an excellent option for smaller manufacturers who are looking to break into the industry. Delaying the approval of edibles and beverages also puts New Jersey at a competitive disadvantage compared to neighboring states that have already legalized these products, and the non-regulated market that has been offering effective edibles. Consumers will simply cross state lines or depend on the non-regulated market to purchase edibles and beverages, thereby depriving the state of much-needed tax revenue.</p> <p>In conclusion, I strongly urge you to take action on this issue and add edibles and beverages to the list of approved cannabis products in New Jersey. Doing so will benefit the economy, support social equity, and ensure that the state remains competitive in the rapidly expanding cannabis industry.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Ben R. Beaty	4/6/23	<p>Once applicants spend millions of dollars to satisfy your criteria and why do you make them wait for license approval? see below from your content.</p> <p>The agenda for the Board meeting, including the list of considered applications, is subject to changes as determined by the Chair. Regardless of whether a particular item is included on a public agenda, no one is guaranteed any specific outcome from Board consideration. Furthermore, no one can be guaranteed a date on which their application will be considered by the Board.</p>
Amy Senn	4/11/23	<p>Dear Commission, Thank you for all that you do. I'm looking forward to being a woman owned cannabis retailer in Woodbine, NJ in Southern New Jersey. I received my conditional retail license (application#2027/Lic#RE000310) on 11/16/22 I applied for my Conditional License Conversion to Annual License</p>

		<p>on February 6th (app #2691) and we received an email for our background check on 3/21/2023. All of us promptly did our background checks by 3/26 and I emailed the CRC to confirm they were received. I haven't heard anything back from the CRC and it appears we are not on this month's list for approvals. It's very hard to plan our new business venture and pay rent for a property without having any update on our pending license. I was hoping you could give us an update.</p> <p>Warmest Regards, Amy Senn Seaweed Express</p>
Charles Salzman	4/12/23	<p>As a prospective applicant for Cannabis Distributor and Wholesaler Licenses, I had been hoping that the agenda for this April 13 public meeting of the CRC would include an item to provide notice of application acceptances for Class 3 and 4 Licenses. Noting the cancellation of the May 4 public meeting, I am submitting this comment with the request that the June 1 agenda will include such notice.</p> <p>My team and I believe that additional delays in accepting applications for these license types not only threaten the viability of these logistics licenses but also disadvantage upcoming standalone cultivators and manufacturers. These independent license holders may not have the resources or the expertise to support the necessary infrastructure and operations to compete with established vertically integrated operators.</p> <p>We look forward to the opportunity to provide logistics support to the evolving supply chain and to advance the State's goal of building a robust and diverse regulated cannabis industry in New Jersey.</p>
R. Todd Edwards	4/12/23	<p>R. Todd Edwards comments Re: 4/13/2023 Cannabis Regulatory Commission ("CRC") public meeting.</p> <p>Good morning, my name is R. Todd Edwards. Some of you may know me from my work in this state with a certain civil rights organization, however today, I am here speaking as the owner of a consultancy which supports the cannabis industry among others.</p> <p>I represent an awardee from the 2019 RFA which was approved for vertical licensure. This group's facilities have been inspected by the CRC with no with no additional actions required to meet compliance. With a \$12 million investment in the company, the organization is ready to serve the needs of patients in the State of New Jersey. However, we are unable to secure a meeting with any staff at the CRC in order to alleviate the concerns the regulator may or may not have. This company is South-Jersey owned, is planning to hire local, and is keen to play their part in contributing to the Social Equity Excise Fee ("SEEF"). By way of these comments, I am requesting a meeting with CRC as soon as possible in order to rectify this issue and open the doors to this facility.</p>

		<p>I would also like to bring to the attention of the CRC a concern that I and many of peers share regarding the voting records of some Commission members. When cannabis was first legalized in New Jersey for adult-use, there was an understanding that it would be a social equity-minded industry. This means, allow the Black and Brown individuals who have been historically arrested, incarcerated, and villainized, to take part in this industry with a level of priority. I am disheartened to see some of our Commission members voting against Black and Brown local business owners who share the same social justice minded goals for our cannabis industry.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. Please reach out to me should you have any questions or concerns.</p> <p>Best regards, R. Todd Edwards</p>
Sherman Hom	4/13/23	<p>I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all the members of the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission (CRC) and for staff for all of their efforts to implement, expand, and improve both the medical and adult use programs in the Garden State.</p> <p>I sincerely hope that the CRC will be publishing the draft cannabis product testing guidelines for cannabis testing laboratories? I hope that the public will have an opportunity to submit comments. Respectfully Sherman Hom, PhD Director of Regulatory Affairs</p>
Jeffrey Walsh	4/14/23	<p>I am writing to express my concerns regarding the elongated process as well as the secrecy surrounding the status of legalizing adult-use cannabis in New Jersey. As a concerned citizen and prospective licensee, I believe that the lack of transparency in the decision-making and review process of the NJ CRC is causing significant delays in the rollout of adult-use cannabis sales in the state, which is in turn causing NJ to lose out on much-needed tax revenue.</p> <p>It's my understanding the commission has been reluctant to release detailed status and progress updates for adult-use dispensaries currently in the process. This lack of transparency is creating significant delays in opening and unnecessary financial and logistical roadblocks for businesses trying to enter the cannabis market.</p> <p>Moreover, the delays in the rollout of adult-use cannabis sales are causing the state to miss out on significant tax revenue. Legalizing cannabis was intended to generate significant tax revenue for the state, but delays in the licensing process and the continued operation of the illicit market are causing the state to lose out on millions of dollars in potential revenue.</p>

The only ones benefiting from these delays are the large MSO companies and medicinal dispensaries permitted to operate as adult-use. This increases the need for transparency as it postulates favoritism and influence from these organizations.

I understand the need for approvals prior to providing a license but being there is no public discussion prior to license approval, this could be done on a weekly basis. The board can vote on licenses as investigations are completed so companies aren't waiting for a monthly meeting that could possibly be canceled. In addition to a few suggestions below, I believe this will speed up the process of opening new adult-use facilities and significantly impact NJ tax revenue.

Additional suggestions:

- Once a license is approved by the CRC board, the facility should be able to open and operate on a probationary status until documents are received. They will be provided a virtual document to store onsite stating their approval/acceptance of the license. This will give the CRC time to do walk-throughs and see the operation as it would function with product onsite and staff interacting with customers.
- Board should approve licenses on a weekly basis and as their investigations are completed.
- Quarterly or once every other month meeting covering larger topics and announcements. We understand these meetings take time to plan and it slows down the review and approval of applications. Splitting the two agendas, frees up time to review more applicants, supplies licenses in real-time, and drives more growth in the industry.
- Continued prioritization based on the current ranking system with clear communication as to how this prioritization is being applied.
- Badging should transfer between companies/organizations and should follow the individual. As we understand it, if a budtender or employee was to transfer companies, they would have to reapply for a new badge and restart the process.
- Badging should be available prior to employment being received or licenses being issued. This gives the facilities and future cannabis employees the ability to get their documentation/staffing aligned and not delay openings.

I urge the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory Commission to take immediate steps to increase transparency in the decision-making process, ensure that licensing is carried out in a timely and efficient manner, and take proactive steps to minimize the delays in the rollout of adult-use cannabis sales. The continued delays are causing significant harm to the state's economy and are

		<p>putting New Jersey at a competitive disadvantage with neighboring states that have already legalized adult-use cannabis.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention Jeff Walsh</p>
Glenn Kigerl	4/17/23	<p>Your roll out of legal marijuana is happening at a snails pace &amp; now you've rescinded Curaleaf's license, the biggest supplier in the state? People that have never smoked marijuana &amp; dont have any experience with it should never be allowed to regulate it..you are a disgrace to all NJ potheads &amp; should be disbanded for total incompetence...you will never be able to complete with the black market when boneheads like yourselves are running the show.</p>