

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2023-08

AN ORDINANCE IMPOSING A MORATORIUM FOR A PERIOD OF 180 DAYS ON THE GRANTING OF ANY NEW PERMITS ALLOWING RETAIL DISPENSARIES FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA WITHIN THE CITY OF MONROE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Monroe desires to coordinate regulations regarding the location and operation of businesses within the City, including retail dispensaries for medical marijuana; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of this Ordinance, “retail dispensaries” have the same meaning as defined in Chapter 3796 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio previously enacted laws concerning medical marijuana; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code Section 3796.29 allows municipalities to prohibit and/or limit the location of retail dispensaries for medical marijuana within corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy recently adopted regulations allowing for additional medical marijuana dispensary licenses in the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the City Administration review and make recommendations on the issue to conform to the City’s goal of providing adequate regulations to ensure the public peace, health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, a moratorium on the granting of permits within the City of Monroe will allow the City time to accomplish these goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE, STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1: The Monroe City Council seeks a moratorium on permits for the establishing and/or relocation of retail dispensaries for medical marijuana to preserve the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Monroe, Ohio.

SECTION 2: The Monroe City Council seeks to limit the duration of the moratorium and to request immediate investigation and review of proposed comprehensive regulations on the establishment of retail dispensaries for medical marijuana within the 180 day period of the moratorium.

SECTION 3: That Monroe City Council hereby imposes a moratorium on permits for the establishment of retail dispensaries for medical marijuana for a period of 180 days from the effective date of this Ordinance and directs that no permits shall be issued for these facilities during the 180 day period of the moratorium.

SECTION 4: That Monroe City Council further finds that a moratorium for 180 days is reasonable and will allow a study for comprehensive regulations.

SECTION 5: This measure is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare and further for the reason that Council deems it necessary to implement a moratorium at the earliest possible date to begin review of the regulations. Therefore, this measure shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage.

PASSED: April 11, 2023

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



Clerk of Council



Mayor

First Reading: March 28, 2023

This legislation was enacted in an open meeting pursuant to the terms and provisions of the Sunshine Law, Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code

I, the undersigned Clerk of Council of the city of Monroe, Ohio, hereby certify the foregoing (ordinance or resolution) was published as required by Section 7.16 of the Charter of the City of Monroe.



Clerk of Council
City of Monroe, Ohio