WHEREAS, new educational programs require approval of the Board of Trustees of Community College District 508, the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE); and

WHEREAS, Public Act 101-0027, the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act (the Act), legalizes and regulates the production, consumption, and sale of cannabis in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, an application for permanent approval of a Basic Certificate in Cannabis Dispensary Operations Program at Olive-Harvey College has been received and appropriately reviewed by members of the Joint Curriculum Development Council for submission; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Basic Certificate in Cannabis Dispensary Operations Program will be to continue to deliver exceptional educational opportunities to a culturally and ethnically diverse population of students at City Colleges of Chicago, while striving to enhance students’ knowledge, application of skill, improve collaborative service learning and promote life-long learning by providing a broad range of quality, affordable courses, programs, and service to prepare students with credentials of economic value; and

WHEREAS, the Act includes social equity provisions to reduce the barriers of entry for individuals most directly and adversely impacted by the enforcement of cannabis-related laws who are interested in starting cannabis business establishments; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 report from the Illinois Economic Policy Institute and the Project for Middle Class Renewal entitled “The Financial Impact of Legalizing Marijuana in Illinois” projects that cannabis dispensary operations in the State of Illinois will create 23,600 jobs at more than 2,600 businesses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 508, County of Cook and State of Illinois, hereby approves the submission of this program for permanent approval by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), pending completion of Proposed Academic Curriculum Changes (PACC) process per Academic Policy 9.02.

December 5, 2019 – Office of Academic and Student Affairs