

## STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON COMMISSIONER

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Ag Commissioner Gipson Provides Update on Relief Available for Pending Poultry House Ad Valorem Tax Increase

**JACKSON, Miss.** – Agriculture Commissioner Andy Gipson provided an update on a pending ad valorem tax increase that would affect Mississippi poultry houses. Counties in the process of updating tax valuations now have the option to request a one-year delay in the proposed increases.

Several counties in Mississippi have been in the process of updating ad valorem land tax valuations. In the case of poultry farms, the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce has been advised that the current law and Mississippi Department of Revenue (DOR) valuation manual provides for periodic updates. According to Commissioner Gipson, this tax increase at this particular time would be highly detrimental to our farmers at a time of record inflationary pressures.

"Following our meeting with Department of Revenue officials and County Tax Assessors on August 8, my office has received important guidance from the Mississippi Department of Revenue. According to the guidance received by the Department of Revenue on August 22, it is confirmed that counties in the process of updating these tax values in 2024 now have the option to request a delay in the proposed increases an additional year, giving time for the Legislature to address this ad valorem tax issue in the 2025 Regular Session," said Commissioner Gipson.

According to the Department of Revenue, counties have the flexibility to adjust property valuation as needed. Tax Assessors, in conjunction with the Board of Supervisors, for each county are the final determiners of value on property within their county. Counties currently updating tax values may delay implementation for an additional year. County Board of Supervisors should contact the Department of Revenue to reschedule their implementation for the next calendar year.

"I want to thank the Mississippi Department of Revenue for their quick attention and guidance on this issue. I encourage all affected poultry farmers to contact your local county Tax Assessor to make sure this information is passed along to the county supervisors in advance of the land roll deadline. We will be working closely with our Legislators to find a permanent resolution to help the farmers on this major issue during the 2025 Session," said Commissioner Gipson.