



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS RELEASE

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Ag Commissioner Gipson Signs Administrative Order Shielding Mississippi Agribusinesses from California Climate Reporting Mandates

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson signed an administrative order to protect Mississippi’s largest industry, agriculture, in direct response to California Senate Bill 253, which sought to impose regulations on agriculture beyond the borders of California beginning in 2026.

“This legislation by California is an overreach of power by another state to incorporate regulations from international climate accords that have not been ratified in the United States and have the potential to hinder our state’s agricultural industry,” said Commissioner Gipson. “Our state agency is committed to safeguarding our hardworking farmers, ranchers, producers and agribusinesses from the undue compliance costs and bureaucratic hurdles that these foreign mandates attempt to impose on our soil.”

Key provisions of Administrative Order No. 2026-01 include:

- **Direct Exemption:** No Mississippi agricultural producer, processor, or agribusiness shall be deemed subject to the provisions of California SB 253 or any international climate mandate that conflicts with Mississippi law.
- **Prohibition of Enforcement:** The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC) will take no action to assist in the enforcement of these reporting or disclosure standards.
- **Inter-Agency Coordination:** Commissioner Gipson will coordinate with the Governor, Attorney General, and other state boards to ensure Mississippi enterprises remain free from extraterritorial burdens.
- **Promotion of Free Enterprise:** The MDAC will continue to prioritize trade relationships and markets that respect state sovereignty and the principles of free enterprise.

California SB 253 imposes greenhouse gas emission reporting requirements and related climate disclosure obligations on companies that conduct business beyond the borders of California, including agricultural and food industry entities headquartered in Mississippi. The administrative order by Commissioner Gipson will counter those regulatory requirements on behalf of Mississippi producers and agribusinesses.

“We are sending a clear message to California and federal authorities – commerce conducted within Mississippi’s borders will be governed by Mississippi law, not by the legislative whims of Sacramento,” Gipson concluded.

View the official order at <https://agnet.mdac.ms.gov/agManage/uploads/3344.pdf>.

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