



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE**

ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER

PRESS STATEMENT

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Ag Commissioner Andy Gipson Applauds American Food Supply Chain Resiliency Act

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson issued the following statement regarding the American Food Supply Chain Resiliency Act introduced by U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith.

“I applaud U.S. Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith for introducing the American Food Supply Chain Resiliency Act which makes the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program permanent and creates regional food system hubs.

Producers of a wide variety of commodities from catfish and dairy products to sweet potatoes, pecans, produce and rice have improved and expanded post-harvest processing, storage and distribution on their farms through the current RFSI Program, and this Act will allow Mississippi to expand those efforts even further.

The challenge for our Mississippi producers is not actually growing the crops; the challenge is the lack of capacity to process and store those crops, which limits market opportunities.

The continuance of RFSI and the development of regional food hubs will strengthen our local food supply chain and create new market opportunities for our producers while providing more nutritious, local food options for consumers – a win-win.”

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