



**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE
ANDY GIPSON
COMMISSIONER**

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 6, 2026

Contact: Paige Manning, Director of Marketing and Governmental Affairs
(601) 359-1163/cell: (662) 312-5897
Paige@mdac.ms.gov

Kelly Shannon, Public Relations Representative
(601) 359-1137/cell: (601) 750-3316
Kelly@mdac.ms.gov

Ag Commissioner Gipson Applauds Trump Administration's Action to Ease Fuel Costs

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson issued the following statement regarding President Trump's Executive Order temporarily allowing off-road dyed diesel for highway use and deferring the applicable Federal excise tax to help lower fuel costs.

"I applaud President Trump and his Administration for taking action to provide much-needed relief at the pump for hardworking farmers, loggers and truckers here in Mississippi and across America. I also commend Governor Reeves for lifting enforcement of the prohibition of dyed diesel on our highways. These actions ensure access to fuel at more affordable prices and keep commerce flowing.

Agriculture is the backbone of our economy and the lifeblood of our rural communities, but rising input costs, historically high fuel prices and depressed commodity prices continue to squeeze already-thin profit margins and put tremendous financial pressure on our producers.

While only a temporary measure, this relief comes at a critical time. With harvest in full swing, farmers are working around the clock to harvest and transport the crops that feed and clothe our state, nation and world. Reducing fuel costs provides immediate, meaningful relief when our producers need it most.

The State of Mississippi can do more. First, we need to make sure that we have ample supply of red dye nationwide to get through this temporary crisis. Secondly, those buying gasoline or on-road diesel for their vehicles are still paying nearly 25 cents per gallon for state fuel taxes.

Most of our neighboring states have suspended state fuel taxes for gasoline and undyed diesel. Mississippi can do the same, even if it takes a Special Session. Our legislators are telling me they are ready to act to give fuel tax relief to everyone - our commuters, retirees, families and working people. Temporary legislative funding measures can be approved to keep construction projects rolling.

I appreciate President Trump and Governor Reeves not only recognizing the challenges facing our agricultural economy but also acting on the concerns of our agricultural community. We must continue working together to keep farmers in the fields, food on our tables and American agriculture moving forward.”

###