



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

PRESS STATEMENT

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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 Releases Update on Dyed Diesel Fuel and Calls for State Level Fuel Tax Relief for all Mississippians

JACKSON, Miss. – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson issued the following statement regarding the Internal Revenue Service’s announcement that penalties will not be imposed for dyed diesel fuel sold for use or used on highways nationwide. This comes in response to President Trump’s Executive Order, *Emergency Tax Relief on Diesel Fuel*, released October 5, 2026.

“I greatly appreciate President Trump’s actions in making enforcement relief available for purchases of red-dyed diesel fuel. We need action at the state level as well. For everyone pumping regular gasoline and diesel fuel, the commuters, truckers, working people of Mississippi, even retired folks living on a fixed income, we still have received zero fuel tax relief at the pump.

Most of our neighboring states have taken action to suspend the state portion of the fuel tax. Even Ohio suspended their gas tax. Mississippi has not. We’re all paying 24 cents per gallon in state tax.

President Trump has approved some relief at the federal level. Yesterday, the IRS released guidance on off-road, red-dyed diesel, saying the agency will not enforce the penalties for use of off-road, red-dyed diesel on highways during a relief period from October 1 to December 31. That’s good news at the federal level.

Farmers, truckers and others who can access red-dyed diesel are legally able to operate on roads and highways in Mississippi through year-end.

But petroleum companies are currently required to collect the state portion of fuel tax at 24 cents per gallon. It adds up.

So far, the IRS has stopped short of eliminating the underlying federal excise tax on dyed diesel as they explore ways to do that. This means the tax may simply be deferred, not eliminated.

The fact is most of our folks in Mississippi will never run across red-dyed diesel fuel. That's why I continue to call on our state leaders and legislators to provide state fuel tax relief for all Mississippians.

Mississippi isn't a broke state. Surely the State of Mississippi can afford to pause state fuel tax collections through the end of the year and let the taxpayers keep just a little of their own money.

Without additional relief at the state level, working Mississippians will remain at a competitive disadvantage to other states, and there may well be many Mississippi trucks and vehicles whose owners simply won't be able to afford to fill up again."

The IRS announcement released October 14, 2026, can be found at:

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-provides-dyed-diesel-fuel-relief-related-to-excise-tax-following-president-trumps-executive-order>.

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