



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

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

# **PRESS STATEMENT**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 10, 2022**

**Contact: Paige Manning, Director of Marketing and Public Relations**  
**(601) 359-1163 / cell: (662) 312-5897**  
[Paige@mdac.ms.gov](mailto:Paige@mdac.ms.gov)

**Hannah East, Marketing Specialist**  
**(601) 359-1179**  
[HannahE@mdac.ms.gov](mailto:HannahE@mdac.ms.gov)

## **Statement on Announcement from Speaker Gunn**

*Ag Commissioner Andy Gipson Gives Statement Regarding Speaker Gunn's Announcement to Not Seek Re-election*

**JACKSON, Miss.** – Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson gave the following statement regarding announcement from Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives Philip Gunn.

“Since my first election to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 2007, Speaker Philip Gunn has been my friend and a supporter of key conservative policies enacted by the Legislature. It was an honor to nominate my friend as Speaker in 2012, then to serve as chairman under his leadership. Since taking office as Speaker in 2012, some of the key accomplishments under his leadership range from Mississippi’s historic pro-life legislation House Bill 1510 that resulted in overturning *Roe v. Wade* at the United States Supreme Court, passing a strong religious freedom law that withstood challenges in federal court, restoring, in state law, the principles of the right to keep and bear arms as provided in the Second Amendment, and more recently, the historic state income tax cuts.

At first, Speaker Gunn and I served together in the House when Republican members were in the minority; then later, we continued working together to shape policy as Mississippi Republicans took control of the House for the first time in modern history.

Since serving as Agriculture Commissioner beginning in 2018, I have greatly appreciated Speaker Gunn’s consistent and strong support of Mississippi’s farmers, ranchers and landowners on a host of major legislative issues. More importantly Speaker Gunn has demonstrated strong commitment to his faith and his family during his legislative tenure these last 20 years.

Although he announced Wednesday he will not seek re-election to the House after 2023, Speaker Gunn’s legacy in helping shape a new era of Mississippi conservative policy will long endure for decades to come. I look forward to continuing working with Speaker Gunn, the House and the entire Legislature in 2023 and in the future on issues important to all Mississippians, especially on issues affecting agriculture, commerce and our rural communities.”

###