



## Mississippi Exemption from SB 253 & Foreign Climate Mandates

### Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Administrative Order No. 2026-01

**Date:** February 27, 2026

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce of the State of Mississippi (“the Commissioner”) is vested with authority under *Miss. Code Ann. § 69-1-13 et seq.* to promote, regulate, and safeguard the agricultural and agribusiness interests of this State, including the supervision of trade, marketing, and economic activity related to agriculture;

**WHEREAS**, California Senate Bill 253 (“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;

**WHEREAS**, these mandates are premised upon regulatory objectives derived from the Paris Climate Agreement, an international accord that has not been ratified by the United States Senate as a binding treaty and thus does not constitute enforceable domestic law;

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner finds that the application or indirect enforcement of SB 253 and similar foreign or international climate mandates within Mississippi would interfere with the free conduct of agricultural commerce, impose undue compliance costs on Mississippi producers, and threaten the economic independence and competitiveness of this State’s agricultural sector;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the powers conferred by state law upon the Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce, and in the interest of protecting the agricultural economy of the State of Mississippi, the Commissioner hereby **ORDERS**:

#### **1. Exemption from Foreign Climate Mandates**

No agricultural producer, processor, cooperative, or agribusiness operating within the State of Mississippi shall be deemed subject to the provisions of California Senate Bill 253 or to any foreign or international climate mandate, including those derived from the Paris Agreement, that conflict with Mississippi law or exceed the proper jurisdictional authority of another state or foreign body.

## **2. Agency Compliance and Enforcement**

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and all divisions operating under its authority shall take no action to enforce, assist in enforcement of, or condition participation in any state agricultural program upon compliance with SB 253 or any Paris Agreement-based reporting, certification, or disclosure standard.

## **3. Inter-Agency Coordination**

The Commissioner shall coordinate with other state agencies, boards, and commissions to ensure that Mississippi's agricultural enterprises remain free from the burdens of extraterritorial climate mandates and shall work to promote markets and trade relationships consistent with state sovereignty and the principles of free enterprise.

## **4. Notice and Communication**

The Commissioner shall communicate this Order to the Governor, the Attorney General, and relevant federal authorities as the State of Mississippi's policy position asserting that agricultural commerce conducted within its borders shall not be constrained by non-binding international accords or the extraterritorial legislation of other states.

## **5. Effective Date**

This Order shall take effect immediately and remain in force until amended, rescinded, or superseded by subsequent order or legislative act.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce to be affixed on this the 27th day of February, 2026.



**Andy Gipson**  
Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce  
State of Mississippi