



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

ANDY GIPSON  
COMMISSIONER

# Press Release

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## **Agriculture Commissioner Applauds Farm Bill and WOTUS Developments**

**JACKSON, Miss.** — Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson commended the Trump Administration and Congress for developments this week on issues impacting Mississippi agriculture.

“I am encouraged this week by the progress made on key issues that significantly impact our farmers, ranchers and landowners across the state. The proposed redefining of the “waters of the U.S.” and the passage of a new farm bill are much-needed good news for our farmers giving them a level of certainty that they need to maintain their operations and remain competitive,” said Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Andy Gipson. “I commend the Trump Administration and the EPA for issuing a less burdensome Clean Water Act rule, and I commend Congress for working diligently to pass a farm bill before the end of the year as farmers are making plans for next year’s crop.”

Earlier this week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed a revised definition of “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) that clarifies federal authority under the Clean Water Act. Following the passage of the 2018 Farm Bill in the Senate yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the \$867 billion farm bill today sending the legislation to President Trump for a signature. It is expected that the President will sign the bill later this week.

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