

By: Representatives Pigott, Carpenter

To: Agriculture

HOUSE BILL NO. 1006

1 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE MANUFACTURE, SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF
2 FOOD PRODUCTS PRODUCED FROM CULTURED ANIMAL CELLS; TO PROVIDE
3 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; TO ENABLE THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
4 AND COMMERCE AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ADOPT RULES OR
5 REGULATIONS AS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION; TO AMEND
6 SECTION 75-35-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO;
7 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

9 **SECTION 1.** (1) For the purposes of this section, the term
10 "cultivated food product" means any food product produced from
11 cultured animal cells.

12 (2) (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture,
13 sell, hold for sale, offer for sale or distribute any cultivated
14 food product in this state.

15 (b) Any person who violates this section shall be
16 guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by
17 a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) or by
18 imprisonment in the county jail for not more than three (3)
19 months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.



20 (3) (a) A retail food establishment, as defined in Section
21 69-1-18, that sells or distributes cultivated food products in
22 violation of this section shall be subject to disciplinary action
23 pursuant to Section 69-1-18.

24 (b) The license of a retail food establishment may be
25 suspended or revoked if found by the Commissioner of Agriculture
26 and Commerce to be in violation of this section, as provided in
27 Section 69-1-18.

28 (4) (a) A retail food establishment that sells or
29 distributes cultivated food products in violation of this section
30 shall be subject to all enforcement measures as provided by rule
31 or regulation of the State Department of Health.

32 (b) The permit of a retail food establishment may be
33 suspended or revoked as provided by rule or regulation of the
34 State Department of Health upon conviction of an owner or an
35 employee of the establishment for a violation of this section in
36 connection with the establishment.

37 (5) The Department of Agriculture and Commerce and the State
38 Department of Health may adopt rules or regulations as necessary
39 to implement this section.

40 **SECTION 2.** Section 75-35-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
41 amended as follows:

42 75-35-15. (1) When any meat or meat food product has been
43 inspected as hereinbefore provided and marked "Mississippi
44 inspected and passed" or appropriate marking shall be placed or



45 packed in any can, pot, tin, canvas, or other receptacle or
46 covering in any establishment where inspection under the
47 provisions of this chapter is maintained, the person, firm, or
48 corporation preparing said product shall cause a label to be
49 attached to said can, pot, tin, canvas, or other receptacle or
50 covering, under supervision of an inspector, which label shall
51 state that the contents thereof have been "Mississippi inspected
52 and passed" or appropriate marking under the provisions of this
53 chapter, and no inspection and examination of meat or meat food
54 products deposited or enclosed in cans, tins, pots, canvas, or
55 other receptacle or covering in any establishment where inspection
56 under the provisions of this chapter is maintained shall be deemed
57 to be complete until such meat or meat food products have been
58 sealed or enclosed in said can, tin, pot, canvas, or other
59 receptacle or covering under the supervision of an inspector.

60 (2) All carcasses, parts of carcasses, meat and meat food
61 products inspected at any establishment under the authority of
62 this chapter and found to be not adulterated, shall at the time
63 they leave the establishment bear, in distinctly legible form,
64 directly thereon or on their containers, as the commissioner may
65 require, the information required under paragraph (k) of Section
66 75-35-3.

67 (3) The commissioner, whenever he determines such action is
68 necessary for the protection of the public, may prescribe:



69 (a) The styles and sizes of type to be used with
70 respect to material required to be incorporated in labeling to
71 avoid false or misleading labeling of any products or animals
72 subject to this article or Article 3 of this chapter; and

73 (b) Definitions and standards of identity or
74 composition for items subject to this article and standards of
75 fill of container for such products not inconsistent with any such
76 standards established under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic
77 Act, or under the Federal Meat Inspection Act, and there shall be
78 consultation between the commissioner and the Secretary of
79 Agriculture of the United States prior to the issuance of such
80 standards to avoid inconsistency between such standards and the
81 federal standards.

82 (4) No item or product subject to this article shall be sold
83 or offered for sale by any person, firm, or corporation, under any
84 name or other marking or labeling which is false or misleading, or
85 in any container of a misleading form or size, but established
86 trade names and other marking and labeling and containers which
87 are not false or misleading and which are approved by the
88 commissioner, are permitted. A food product that contains
89 cultured animal tissue produced from animal cell cultures outside
90 of the organism from which it is derived shall not * * *
91 manufactured or sold within the state. A plant-based or
92 insect-based food product shall not be labeled as meat or a meat
93 food product.



(5) If the commissioner has reason to believe that any marking or labeling or the size or form of any container in use or proposed for use with respect to any item subject to this article is false or misleading in any particular, he may direct that such use be withheld unless the marking, labeling, or container is modified in such manner as he may prescribe so that it will not be false or misleading. If the person, firm, or corporation using or proposing to use the marking, labeling or container does not accept the determination of the commissioner, such person, firm, or corporation may request a hearing, but the use of the marking, labeling, or container shall, if the commissioner so directs, be withheld pending hearing and final determination by the commissioner. Any party aggrieved by such final determination may, within thirty (30) days after receipt of notice of such final determination, effect an appeal therefrom to the chancery court of the county in which such party resides or in which the principal place of his business is domiciled; and, on appeal, such chancery court shall affirm, modify, or set aside the commissioner's final determination.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2025.

