



**MICHAEL WATSON**  
MISSISSIPPI SECRETARY OF STATE

## Cutting the Regulatory Burden with Mississippi Secretary of State Michael Watson

When Secretary of State Michael Watson started studying regulations in Mississippi, he found something shocking: 118,000 regulations on the books, making it one of the most regulated states in the southeast. Here, Secretary of State Watson shares how his office is fighting back, including a frustrating tale about a federal agency standing in the way of a grocery store coming to a small town in Mississippi.

*“As I was walking through those conversations on the phone and in those emails, I started thinking... imagine that local business owner. That’s the importance of making sure Mississippians know they have an advocate here in the Secretary of State’s office to help navigate that regulatory burden or cut it.”*

—MICHAEL WATSON

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