

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address December 9, 2016
“Supporting our National Defense”

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

According to the House Homeland Security Committee’s December Terror Threat report, just released this week, the United States faces its highest threat from Islamist terrorists since September 11th.

As evident over the last few decades, it is critical that we maintain a strong national defense, which includes taking care of our troops by ensuring they have all of the resources that they need.

Congress did just that this week when both the House and Senate passed the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2017, which will fund the military through this next year.

I am pleased to say that this authorization bill includes the largest pay raise for our troops in almost six years. Additionally, it starts to stabilize the readiness problems that are making it more difficult for our troops to accomplish their mission.

This authorization bill went through regular order in the legislative process—through the hearings in the appropriate committees before a vote on both the House and Senate floors.

And again this year, the House voted to include my “Audit the Pentagon” amendment in the defense bill. This requires the Department of Defense to produce a report that will bring it into compliance with standing federal law and produce verifiable financial statements that can be fully audited. The Pentagon must be held to the same level of accountability that other federal agencies are held to when it comes to the spending of taxpayer dollars.

Since being elected as your Member of Congress, I have been working to ensure the United States maintains the most capable military in the world and I will continue to do so.

As always I appreciate your comments or your questions on this topic or any other. May God bless you and your family, may God bless our troops and as the song says, God bless you Texas.