

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address February 27, 2014 “Texas Independence Day”

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. One hundred and seventy nine years ago this Monday, Texas was born.

Texas Independence Day is a time each year where we can reflect on what makes our great state unique. That frontier spirit that led our Texas ancestors to victory over an oppressive Mexican regime is still alive and well in our state today. We study about the Texas Revolution from the 1830s in our schools. But the truth is, Texas is experiencing another sort of revolution now. At a time when folks across the country are still looking for work and struggling to put food on the table, our economy in the state of Texas is booming. Our unemployment numbers are far less than the national average, and citizens of other states are flocking to Texas in droves. Our state is where the opportunity is, and we couldn't be more proud to welcome these folks with open arms and show them the Texas way.

This year, as I reflect on what Texas Independence Day means to me, I'm reminded of the speech that Governor Abbott gave at his inauguration just over a month ago. He said, and I quote, "Texas is the place where the improbable becomes the possible. Many thought it was improbable that Texans would overcome total devastation at the Alamo. And yet the unyielding drive for independence that has always filled the hearts of Texans led to victory at the battle of San Jacinto. And thus began the legend that Texas has become."

As the saying goes, I wasn't born in Texas, but I got here as quick as I could. And I never take for granted how lucky I am to have grown up here, raised my family here, run my medical practice here, and now represent Texas in Congress. So this year, let us all remember what a blessing it is to be citizens of the greatest state in the nation. Let us be thankful for the abundant opportunity that is available to us while considering how many folks are still struggling. And let us never forget the bravery and strength that it took to declare independence all those years ago. For it began the 'promise of Texas,' which is thriving today.

As always, thank you for taking the time to listen. May God bless you and your family, and as always, may God forever bless our great state of Texas.