

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address March 24, 2013

“No Armed Drones Act”

Hello this is your Congressman Michael Burgess. Earlier this month, Senator Rand Paul from Kentucky stood in the Senate Chambers for thirteen hours filibustering John Brennan’s nomination as head of the Central Intelligence Agency. His purpose – to get assurance from the Obama administration that no American could be killed by a drone without first being indicted of a crime.

What Senator Paul received was about a two sentence response from Attorney General Eric Holder. The problem is that the response failed to actually answer the question. Attorney General Holder did not define “combat” when answering if President Obama would have the authority to quote “use a weaponized drone to kill an American not engaged in combat on American soil,” end quote.

Americans are concerned about privacy, and drones present the possibility for abuse by law enforcement. We need to guarantee that the proper safety measures are taken so that Americans and their property are safely guarded. That’s why I’ve reintroduced the No Armed Drones Act along with Congressman Christopher Gibson from New York.

The legislation would amend the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 to prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from authorizing any person to operate an unmanned drone domestically as a weapon. The matter, no matter the constitutionality of the use of drones overseas, the use of armed drones domestically should not be contemplated.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For more information on legislative issues before the United States Congress, please visit my website, burgess.house.gov. May God bless you and your family - and as always, may God bless Texas.