

Text of Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Greeting July 22, 2011

“Cut, Cap, and Balance”

Hello. This is your Congressman, Michael Burgess.

This week in Washington, the House of Representatives voted on the Cut, Cap, and Balance Act. The legislation is aimed to accomplish three main goals. First, it will cut spending by \$111 billion dollars. Secondly, it will cap federal spending at the 2012 level for the next ten years. And finally, it will allow the current debt ceiling to be raised only after the passage of a Balanced Budget Amendment.

America is on a dangerous path of fiscal destruction - one that may threaten the very fabric of our republic. The number one problem right now is that Congress is writing post-dated checks on an overdrawn account. This Congress was elected to bring fiscal sanity to Washington. Cut, Cap, and Balance moves America in the right direction on spending.

The proposal will save almost \$6 trillion dollars over ten years by placing spending limits with sequestration procedures. The interest on the national debt will be paid. And limitations would exempt payment for military personnel, military retirement, and TRICARE for Life. In addition, and this is important, there will be no spending caps for veterans, Social Security, or Medicare.

One of the main sections of the legislation will require a Balanced Budget Amendment be passed by this Congress - before increasing the debt ceiling. Having a balanced budget is imperative to putting America back on a path of fiscal solvency and financial prosperity. The Balanced Budget Amendment will also require a super-majority vote be met for Congress to increase taxes.

As families across this nation are cutting their spending at home, Washington must do the same. America can't afford more spending and more debt while not seeing growth. America needs jobs. We need to quit spending money we do not have, and we need to put people back to work. Dealing with these important issues will allow America to do what we've always done best: create, innovate, and lead the world. Cut, Cap, and Balance puts us in the right direction.

Cut, Cap, and Balance passed the House. I hope the Senate will take up this important piece of legislation. America cannot afford to wait any longer than we already have.

For information on this issue and other legislative issues before Congress please visit my website at burgess.house.gov. Thank you for taking the time to listen. God bless you and your family, and after all God bless Texas!