

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address May 28, 2015 “AUMF”

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. As you may have heard, The National Defense Authorization Act was recently debated in both Houses of Congress.

Although my “audit the Pentagon” amendment successfully passed in the House, another critical amendment did not. During consideration in the House Rules Committee, I supported an amendment to replace an outdated Authorization’s for Use of Military Force.

These parameters of our nation’s military engagements are to be set by Congress. The Legislative Branch has a constitutional duty to ensure AUMFs are compatible with the strategic military landscape for which they were created.

However, The Obama Administration is currently operating under authorizations passed in 2001 and 2002. They were crafted for conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and have gone undebated since then.

This is a policy that must stop. Congress has a duty to examine and scrutinize these parameters with regard for present day threats.

We have a moral obligation to our troops to get rid of these authorizations, and craft new ones. Anything less is a failure to fulfill one of our most important responsibilities.

As always, I welcome your questions and comments on this issue. Thank you for taking the time to listen. May God bless you and your family, and as always, may God bless Texas.