

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address September 18, 2015  
“Constitution Day”

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Government only with the consent of the governed.

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. This week we celebrated Constitution Day, the 228<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the most powerful document in United States history by our Founding Fathers.

When I was back home earlier this week, I went to an event in Flower Mound, Texas with an former Representative Allen West and I was reminded of the quote from Benjamin Franklin. He was asked during the deliberations of the Constitutional Convention,

“Well, Doctor, what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?”

With no hesitation whatsoever, Benjamin Franklin responded, "A republic, if you can keep it."

That was not an observation—but a challenge and a call to action.

This notion is just as imperative today as it was back in 1787. Despite the existing attitude we see in Washington, the Constitution is not optional. It is the bedrock on which our nation was created and is as relevant today as any other time in America's history.

Our Founding Fathers recognized that our unalienable rights are awarded to all Americans and are awarded by God and should not be violated by an unrestrained federal government any more than our rights should be violated by an unrestrained king or monarch.

Our Founding Fathers gave us the Constitution as a model for which our government should exist, we must remain vigilant in our efforts to maintain a republic form government.

As we honor another year of the United States Constitution, I encourage all of you to take a moment to consider what liberties this influential document protects in our everyday lives.

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