

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address October 2, 2015  
“The Race for Leadership”

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Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess.

At town hall meetings I hosted during the August district work period, many of you asked about a change in leadership in the House of Representatives. At that time, I was not aware of any change that was occurring.

That has since changed.

With the unexpected announcement of Speaker Boehner’s retirement last week, there is a critical crossroads in the majority leadership of the House of Representatives.

House Republicans are hosting a series of meetings to hear from candidates that have expressed an interest in leadership positions.

And I anticipate that elections for the Speaker, and possibly the Majority Leader and Majority Whip will occur on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

You know I ran for a leadership position several years ago, I understand how difficult an undertaking this can be.

The position of the Speaker of the House is one that was created by the U.S. Constitution. Because of that, it demands a great deal of attention and consideration.

It is, after all, a position that is merely two heartbeats away from the Presidency.

Each of these leadership positions come with immense responsibilities.

The Speaker of the House serves as the spokesperson for the institution of the house and presides over all debate in the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is charged with scheduling legislation for floor consideration and working to advance the goals of the party in the House of Representatives.

And lastly, the Majority Whip is tasked with encouraging Members to support the party's legislative position, sometimes even in tense situations.

I recognize the challenges that accompany all of these leadership positions are significant. At this time, there is not a clear consensus on who will ultimately fill any of the potentially open leadership areas.

I know you will be following this process closely.

As always, I welcome your comments and your questions on this issue.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. May God bless you and your family, and as the song says, God bless you Texas.