

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address September 30, 2015 “Opposing the CR”

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. Earlier this week, as the 2016 fiscal year came to a close, Congress passed a short-term spending deal or what is called a continuing resolution.

While I understand that one party cannot always get everything they want in a spending bill, this one did ignore some pretty important issues. Which is, in the end of the day, why I could not support it. Different from past short-term spending bills, this bill neglected to take action on provisions that really, once they've happened, they cannot be undone.

Effective 1 October, the United States oversight of basic Internet function will be transitioned to an international entity. This may increase the influence of authoritarian regimes, like Russia, and China and Iran and diminish the United States influence.

Also of equal importance to me—the continuing resolution neglected to address the influx of Syrian refugees into this country or establish a more stringent vetting system for those refugees.

Currently, the Administration is on track to far exceed its goal by admitting 12,500 Syrian refugees for the last fiscal year. And to make matters worse, the White House aims to admit 110,000 refugees over the 12 months of the next fiscal year.

These alarming numbers don't even include the number of unaccompanied alien children crossing our borders. Over 54,000 of

these unaccompanied children have crossed the Southwest border, and 33,000 have come right through the lower Rio Grande Valley Sector.

Anyone that enters this country must be properly vetted to ensure that there is no risk of letting someone into this country that would pose a danger to our citizens.

We continue to lack the necessary will to thoroughly vet refugee applicants, particularly from the Middle East and particularly from Syria. This could have been written into the spending bill, but it was not.

It is my hope that as we begin negotiating for the longer-term spending bills in December, we reaffirm our commitment to addressing, individually, the serious failings of this Administration. And we also hope that Congress does not concede to an omnibus bill at the end of the year.

It is important to remember that Congress, not the White House, holds the 'power of the purse.' While we've come to expect a type of behavior from the Obama administration, we certainly don't have to accept it or condone it.

As always, I welcome your questions, your comments on this issue or any issue. May God bless you and your family, and as the song says, God bless you Texas.