

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address January 9, 2014 “Year-End Report”

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. As the first week of the new session of Congress comes to a close, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect back on last year’s work and accomplishments.

Each year since 2009, my office has compiled a large and comprehensive annual report. In this report, we examine and quantify every function of both our Washington and Lake Dallas offices. We put together and release this report as part of our commitment to transparency, but also to keep track of our progress or areas we could improve upon.

This year was a big one. As I have discussed in many of these video addresses over the past 12 months, the times in which we live are trying, and the issues are complex.

Our office was heavily involved in combating and addressing the Ebola outbreak, for example. This fall was frightening for our area, when some of our own local health workers became infected with the deadly virus. As part of my committee work, I asked tough questions to our witnesses in several hearings on this topic. I am still committed to working with the CDC and other officials to combat Ebola’s spread.

Another issue we were devoted to this year was the crisis on the Texas border, when thousands of unaccompanied minors made the treacherous journey to the United States. I visited the border several times to monitor the intake facilities, as well as introduced legislation and wrote several letters to deal with this issue. We include all of these documents in the annual report.

One area of success we saw this year was when my legislation to improve care for patients with muscular dystrophy, the MD CARE Act, was signed into public law. I believe this law will significantly improve the lives of these patients, and I am pleased that this bipartisan measure is now officially the law of the land.

The 2014 report and past reports are available on my website at burgess.house.gov. I hope you’ll take a glance at it and share it with your friends and family.

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.