

Text of Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Greeting October 7, 2011

“Jobs and our Economy”

Hello this is your Congressman Michael Burgess. You know the economy has been staggering for over three years. The Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, told our Joint Economic Committee this week, that the recovery from the financial crisis has been much less robust than everyone had hoped. That’s an understatement if I’ve ever heard one. House Republicans have been doing what we were sent here to do: get the economy working for America again.

It is apparent, however, that the steps taken by the Obama administration are holding our country back. A failed stimulus package. A government takeover of health care. More federal regulations in the financial sector. And now the president is going cross country promoting yet another stimulus package. In fact, he was in Dallas earlier this week talking about his plan.

The President and Democrats are constantly talking about how we need to pass this stimulus plan. Pass it now. Don’t delay. Look, Republicans are not standing in the way. Senator Mitch McConnell requested that the president’s stimulus plan proceed immediately to an up or down vote in the Senate. And what happened? Senator Reid blocked his own bill from coming for a vote. And why? Because even many of the Democrats feel that the President’s stimulus will not work. And Senator Reid lacks the votes he needs from Democrats in the Senate for the passage of his bill.

If the administration really cared about creating jobs, they could take proactive steps to ensure Americans had jobs right now. One step would be to sell the sixty-six F-16 fighter jets to our close ally and friend Taiwan. That plan would create thousands of jobs, especially in North Texas. The sale is being blocked by the White House itself.

Now look, I ran a small business. I set up my own medical practice. I never once thought of the federal government as a partner, or source of help to get me up and running. I do believe the best thing the federal government can do is get out of the way of businesses and let them create jobs. Republicans in the House of Representatives have passed a dozen bills that have yet to come up for a vote in the Senate. Most of these would focus on job creation, relieving the regulatory burden, and, you know, I think we could do even more.

If a stimulus bill would work, we would’ve already seen success. Another stimulus bill will not get people working – we’ve learned this from the past two stimulus bills. However, there are things we can do. We need to cut our debt. We need to increase domestic energy production of all types. We need to get corporate America to invest some of the \$2 trillion in cash reserves that are sitting on the sidelines. That’s not my figure. That’s a figure that was supplied by Ben Bernanke this week in committee. We need to reform and simplify the tax code. And finally, we need to repeal the health care law that will cost the American people trillions of dollars.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For information on this issue and other legislative issues before the Congress please visit my website at burgess.house.gov. God bless you and your family. Thanks for listening. As always, God bless Texas.