

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address December 2, 2011

“The Failure of the Select Committee”

Hello this is your Congressman Michael Burgess. Just before Thanksgiving, the Select Committee announced that they were unable to reach an agreement in finding \$1.2 trillion in cuts before the November 23rd deadline. But you know Congress could reduce the deficit by eliminating spending that is slated to begin in the future – and spending America simply cannot afford.

In fact, the Select Committee could have easily achieved almost their entire target of reducing the nation’s deficit - and most surprisingly, almost every dollar would come from benefits that do not yet exist. Two of the largest and costliest provisions in The Affordable Care Act, the new health care law, create unprecedented government mandates costing a combined total of nearly \$1.5 trillion.

One-point-five trillion dollars saved by stopping this spending boondoggle. These new mandates give the federal government far too much control over millions of Americans’ health care. Not to mention it gives taxpayers far too much responsibility for financing the program. Given our deteriorating debt situation over the past year, it’s clearer than ever: we can’t afford this new spending.

Washington needs to stop pointing fingers and get to work if we expect America to get back on a path to prosperity. American families are making cuts at home and Washington must do the same. Families do not have the luxury to miss their bill deadlines, and neither should Washington. Like every American family, the federal government must have a logical discussion about cutting back on spending we simply cannot afford. The Select Committee should have been able to present their ideas and proposal to Congress, but they didn’t and now we’re back at square one and understandably the American people are more frustrated than ever.

America must reduce our deficit. We need to put people back to work. The House has passed more than 25 jobs bills this year. Twenty of these House passed jobs bills are stalled in the Senate. Enough is enough. Let’s get people back to work. Let’s focus on ways we can reduce our deficit. Let’s create more tax payers, not more taxes.

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