

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address December 14, 2012

“The Fiscal Cliff”

Hello this is your Congressman Michael Burgess. Earlier this week I had a telephone town hall meeting with constituents from the 26th District of Texas to discuss the fiscal cliff. During the call I heard from many of you, and your views on what is the biggest contributor to our national debt in regards to the fiscal cliff.

By far, the most common theme was that the size and cost of the federal government is the largest contributor. Also, many of you all stated that taxes should not be raised on anyone. Not the top two percent, not the bottom two percent, or any percent in between.

The proposal that the Obama administration proposed includes four times as much tax revenue as it does cuts in spending. Additionally, the modest cuts in the president’s plan are canceled out by additional “stimulus” measures that the administration is also requesting. The bottom line is that raising taxes isn’t going to solve the spending problem.

The out of control spending has placed our nation in a position where our government is even deeper in debt. Look, the good news is that so far, this fiscal year, revenue is up. The economy is recovering. The bad news is that the spending has gone up faster than revenue.

If we continue on President Obama’s current trajectory, the projected debt at the end of his second presidential term will be over 22 trillion dollars. I cannot believe that this is the legacy that President Obama wants to leave for his children or any children in our country.

As the discussion around the fiscal cliff moves forward, I believe that there should not be any tax increases, and that we should look at areas within our federal government where we can spend more efficiently. In other words, cut spending. Again, we need a government that is efficient, less expensive, and more responsive – not a government that continually overspends.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For more information on legislative issues before the United States Congress, please visit my website, burgess.house.gov. May God bless you and your family - and as always, may God bless Texas.