

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address March 25, 2016  
“Brussels Terror Attack”

---

Hello this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess.

As you know, this week the Islamic State claimed responsibility for two terrorist attacks in the country of Belgium, the city of Brussels.

I extend my deepest condolences and prayers to the victims and their families who were impacted by the tragic terror attacks committed against the people of Belgium. These astonishingly cruel acts of terror know no race, no gender, no nationality.

We must remain vigilant in protecting Americans here at home by taking every necessary precaution to calm the fears of the American people. These precautions include strengthening our process for vetting and monitoring individuals who arrive in the United States.

For years, the Europeans and visitors to the continent have enjoyed the ability to pass from one country to another.

Terrorists are now leveraging these open borders and the ease with which anyone can transition from country to country literally undetected.

The United States and our allies are currently facing an elevated threat of a terror attack. As a result, our current refugee screening processes are no longer adequate for guaranteeing the safety of Americans.

These recent events serve as a reminder to remain ever vigilant when it comes to controlling our borders.

Now is the time to refocus our efforts on strengthening our process for vetting and monitoring people who cross the border into our country.

The House of Representatives has done its part to pass legislation that establishes and strengthens proper vetting and monitoring processes.

Immediately following the attacks in Paris last November, before the attacks in San Bernardino, in December, the House acted quickly to pass the SAFE Act (H.R. 4038).

This bill expanded background checks on refugees hoping to enter the United States from countries with a significant terrorist presence.

It is absolutely critical—especially following the attacks in Brussels this week—that the Senate stops dragging its feet and finally takes action and passes the SAFE Act.

As always, I appreciate your comments and your questions on this issue or any other issue.

I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Easter.

May God bless you and your family, may God bless the people of Belgium, our troops, our first responders and as the song says, God bless you Texas.