

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address January 10, 2014 “ACA Website Security”

Hello this is your congressman, Michael Burgess. Again, I want to wish you a Happy New Year and with the New Year we all expect new results. We all know that healthcare.gov has been riddled with problems for a long time. While this has been clear, information regarding the president’s health care website has been vague. The administration has been avoiding answers to serious questions for long enough.

What concerns me at this moment is the website’s ability to protect people’s personal information. Last fall, we learned that healthcare.gov never underwent a full security assessment. Officials at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services have admitted that the untested parts of the website pose a high risk for Americans that are using the website. The agency Chief Information Officer, Teresa Fryer, warned that “there is no confidence that Personal Identifiable Information will be protected.”

This is worrisome; the administration claims that they will notify people if there has been a breach. I appreciate those words, but at this point, I have a little trouble believing what they tell me when it comes to this website. The administration has deliberately misled the American people for the last year. Why should we believe them now?

Companies across the country are required to notify customers when there is a security breach. Shouldn’t our government do the same? That’s why the Health Exchange Security Act is so important. The House voted on this bill today to require Health and Human Services to notify individuals within two business days if their personal information has been compromised. This is an important step to curb the administration’s lack of transparency with the so called Affordable Care Act.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For more information about legislation before the United States Congress, please visit my website, burgess.house.gov. May God bless you and your family, may you have a prosperous and safe new year, and as always, may God bless Texas.