

## Weekly Address: Congress' obligation

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Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

President Trump recently announced the removal of American Military Forces from Northern Syria. I certainly understand the concern of other members of Congress.

But, with that said, Congress should take action itself. According to Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, it is our responsibility to appropriate the funds and authorize any military action. To date, through two administrations, Congress has yet to directly authorize any military action in the country of Syria.

This is the obligation of The United States Congress. If Congress wants a different outcome executed by the President, then we need to authorize the use of military force in the country of Syria and then pass an appropriations bill for the Department of Defense. This legislation should have been one of the first actions this week.

What I did do was signed onto the Countering Turkish Aggression Act of 2019. This act places sanctions on Turkey for their aggression in Northern Syria and is a step in the right direction to help our allies.

It remains our job, Congress' job, to provide funding for key military operations in the fight against terrorism. Our men and women in uniform deserve our support and they deserve a unified strategy. It's time for Congress to take back responsibility to authorize military operations in the fight against ISIS, and then of course continue to fund support for our allies.

As always, I appreciate your comments and your questions on this issue or any other issue. May God bless you and your family, and as the song says, God bless you Texas.