

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address April 23, 2015
“The IRS must protect your data”

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. This tax season, North Texas victims of income tax identity theft have contacted my Lake Dallas office in record numbers. Unfortunately, our community is not alone.

Across the nation, tax identity fraud is a growing problem that’s devastating to families, and places billions of taxpayer dollars into the hands of criminals.

Last year alone, the IRS dispersed an estimated \$5.8 billion to identity thieves. Even worse, a recent Treasury audit reports that the IRS took an average of 278 days to resolve fraudulently impacted claims.

This is completely unacceptable.

This week, I contacted the IRS to inform them of the influx of reports in our district. I also demanded that the IRS provide in-depth analysis of their fraud investigation procedures.

Make no mistake; it *is* the IRS’s duty to safeguard your data.

They cannot sit idle as thieves get away with using stolen Taxpayer I.D. and Social Security numbers. They are in the best position to help stop the problem at the source and have a responsibility to do so.

I abhor the idea that my constituents are being victimized while completing their civic duty. And, I will work vigorously to hold the IRS accountable for their inaction in this matter.

If you believe you have been a victim of tax identity theft please contact my office for assistance.

As always, I welcome your questions and comments on this issue.
Thank you for taking the time to listen. May God bless you and your family, and as always, may God bless Texas.