

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address May 23, 2016  
“Memorial Day”

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Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. This Memorial Day weekend, as you enjoy time, with your family and friends, I encourage you to take a moment to reflect and pay your respects to all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedoms.

It is because of these selfless men and women, that we are able to enjoy the simple pleasures in life.

As the late President Ronald Reagan said and I quote “Words are even more feeble on this Memorial Day for the sight before us is that of a strong and good nation that stands in silence and remembers those who were loved and who, in return, loved their countrymen enough to die for them.”

Many service members have laid their lives on the line to protect our nation, and they deserve the deepest respect and thanks our nation has to offer.

For our troops serving around the world, and those transitioning back into civilian life, our commitment to them is only beginning. Taking care of them, and their families, is a responsibility we must take seriously and work to uphold.

As part of our vow to our armed forces, Congress passed the fiscal year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act and the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bills last week.

Both bills not only provide funding for our troops and veterans and address the readiness crisis in our military, but they make needed

reforms; reforms focused on advancing the wellbeing of our service members, while also being mindful of the spending of taxpayer dollars.

The 26<sup>th</sup> district is home to many of our nation's bravest servicemen and women. More than 120,000 active duty personnel and over fifty thousand reserve forces come from right here at home in Texas.

So, please take a moment this weekend to thank a service member and remember those who didn't make it home to their families.

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

May God bless you and your family, and as the song says God bless you, Texas.