

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address July 14, 2017
House Passage of the 2018 NDAA

Hello this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

Since I have been elected to represent you in Congress, my highest priority has been our national security and defense. Ensuring that North Texans, as well as Americans from shore to shore, are protected from threats abroad is a responsibility I take very seriously.

In this country we are fortunate to have an excellent military that is committed to protecting our nation, often at great sacrifice to the many men and women in uniform. The best way that we can support our military is to ensure that they have the resources they need.

Just today, the House of Representatives voted to pass the FY 2018 National Defense Authorization Act for the 56th year in a row. And for the third consecutive year, the House voted to include my “Audit the Pentagon” amendment in the defense bill. This amendment requires the Department of Defense to rank all military departments and agencies in order of audit readiness.

In 1990, Congress passed the Chief Financial Officers Act requiring every Department and Agency in the Federal government to produce verifiable financial statements that can be fully audited. To date, each major agency has been able to complete this task except one – the Department of Defense (DOD).

The Pentagon must be held to the same level of accountability that other federal agencies are held to when it comes to the spending of taxpayer dollars. My amendment allows the Congress to execute a chief federal government function: oversight.

I am grateful for the many North Texans and Americans from across our nation who serve in the Armed Forces, and will continue working to ensure they are well-equipped to defend our nation.

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