Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address November 21, 2014 "New Congress, New Priorities"

Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. Earlier this week, House Republican leadership announced committee assignments for the 114th Congress. I was named Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade, also known as CMT.

Serving the House in this new role is a privilege. The Energy and Commerce Committee is one of the longest-standing and hardest-working committees on the Hill. This Congress alone, we have been able to accomplish many goals.

We have launched the 21st Century Cures initiative, which aims to innovate in new ways to eliminate illness and human suffering. We launched a new vision for American energy known as the "Architecture of Abundance." We also had plenty of legislative success. During the 113th Congress alone, our committee has seen 85 committee bills pass the House, 32 signed into law and 50 are currently awaiting Senate action. Those achievements have put us on a path towards even more success in the next Congress, and I am looking forward to doing everything I can as chairman of CMT to further that accomplishment.

Now, a word on CMT. This Subcommittee is an important one. It deals with issues that directly affect American families each day, such as consumer issues, online privacy, trade, commercial issues and even sports. In my capacity as chairman, I hope to lead efforts to create more American jobs, encourage manufacturing in the United States, protect the personal information of consumers and put an end to federal red tape that hurts the average American employer and family.

I came to Congress as a small-town doctor looking to work on issues that affected my patients and medical practices across the country. While my role in the House has expanded, I have not lost sight of the reasons I came to Washington years ago. I look forward to continuing that work and commitment in my role as chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade.

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