

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address March 11, 2016
“Disruptive Technologies”

Hello this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess.

The Energy & Commerce subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade, on which I serve as the Chairman, has been examining “disruptive technologies.”—new and developing technologies that are redefining our lives and improving efficiency across a variety of industries.

As part of the Disrupter series, we have held hearings on the benefits of drones, mobile payment services such as PayPal and Apple Pay and the sharing economy, which includes companies such as Uber and Lyft.

More recently in our hearing series, we have examined the effect that 3D printing is having on the manufacturing industry.

Within our own district, 3D printing is enabling businesses to get the job done more efficiently. A Fort Worth auto supply company, Painless Performance, uses a 3D printing prototype service to build custom wiring harnesses. I have seen firsthand how Painless Performance is building these parts and speeding up the development of these products.

In a hearing just last week, we explored wearable technologies, which are internet-connected devices physically worn by the user. From health trackers, such as Fit Bits, to smart watches and smart glasses, wearable technologies are transforming the 21st century economy and the way consumers engage in everyday commerce.

While the goal of these hearings is to learn more about this ever-evolving industry and to ensure safety, we want to be cautious that

Congress continues to facilitate rather than regulate these disruptive forces.

As always, I welcome your questions or comments on this issue or any other.

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