

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address December 2, 2016 “Delivering on the Promise of Cures”

Hello, this is your Congressman Michael Burgess.

Imagine a world in which the government is an ally, rather than an obstacle, in the cycle of medical innovation.

This week the House of Representatives was finally able to deliver on the promise of cures to millions of patients, by passing the 21st Century Cures Act.

This bill makes needed changes to bring our laws into a modern era of medicine and to keep our nation at the forefront of health care innovation. It outlines mechanisms to streamline regulation to deliver new therapies to all patients.

Since we began the path to Cures three years ago, I joined fellow members of the House Energy & Commerce Committee in dozens of hearings, meetings, and roundtables across the nation. During these forums, we collected input from leading scientists, medical experts, patient advocates and researchers on streamlining the process by which innovative medicines and therapies are discovered and made available to patients.

Policy does the most good for the most people when it is crafted with the input and expertise of the people that will be impacted.

Every dollar in the bill is offset. In fact, it will reduce the national deficit by nearly 6 billion dollars over the next 10 years. Additionally, the discretionary spending will ensure funding is subject to Congressional oversight and review through the appropriations process every year.

There are 10,000 known diseases and we currently have cures or treatments for only 500 of them. This landmark legislation delivers hope to millions of Americans suffering from intractable diseases. We have made patients and their families wait long enough for life-saving remedies—and now I am pleased to say that the wait is over.

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