

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of the American flag, showing the blue field with white stars and the red and white stripes. The flag is waving, and the colors are vibrant. A large, semi-transparent red rectangle is overlaid in the center of the page, containing the text.

CONGRESSMAN  
MICHAEL BURGESS, M.D.

# 2016 Annual Year End Report

26TH CONGRESSIONAL  
DISTRICT OF TEXAS

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## Snapshot of 2016

- Participated in **70** hearings and markups in the Energy and Commerce Committee
- Participated in **50** hearings in the Rules Committee
- Cast **610** votes, a **99.2%** vote attendance record
- Had **3** bills signed into law
- Authored and introduced **9** pieces of legislation
- Cosponsored **95** pieces of legislation
- Resolved **490** cases with federal agencies on behalf of constituents
- Received and responded to more than **39,000** pieces of correspondence
- Held or attended more than **400** events
- Assisted in having **126** American flags flown over the U.S. Capitol
- Honored **19** outstanding student constituents entering the U.S. Service Academies
- Mentioned in **628** newspaper articles and blog posts
- Participated in **76** radio interviews and **52** television interviews
- Issued **59** press releases and **48** weekly video addresses
- Led **15** letters on issues ranging from healthcare to national security
- Continued to carry out role as Chairman of the Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade

*It is an honor to serve you in the United States House of Representatives. For the past year, I've done my best to represent you and advocate on behalf of your interests in Washington. While we have made a lot of progress in the last year to get our economy back on track and rein in the spending and overreach of the government, there is still a lot of work left to be done. In the coming year, I will continue my commitment to advancing a pro-growth, pro-jobs agenda. We need to make government more efficient and reduce the bureaucratic burdens and over regulation that are stifling our economy. With dedication and commitment, we can build this great country back, and we can create a better future for our children and grandchildren.*

## About Me



After spending nearly three decades practicing medicine in North Texas as an OB-GYN, I have served the constituents of the 26th District in the United States House of Representatives since 2003.

I currently serve on the prestigious House Energy and Commerce Committee where I served as vice chairman of both the Subcommittees on Health and Oversight and Investigations for the 113th Congress and was a member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Power. In November 2014, I was named Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade for the 114th Congress. In addition, I am a member of the Rules Committee and the Helsinki Commission. In 2009, I founded the Congressional Health Caucus, on which I serve as co-chairman.

Because of my medical background, I have been a strong advocate for health care legislation aimed at reducing health care costs, improving choices, reforming liability laws to put the needs of patients first, and ensuring there are enough doctors in the public and private sector to care for America's patients and veterans. I have voted to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 54 times. I have played an important role in bipartisan efforts to ensure the safety of food, drugs, and consumer products, and have introduced legislation to strengthen our ability to stop dangerous goods and products from coming into this country.

As a member of Congress representing one of the fastest-growing areas of the country, transportation is also a top priority. In 2005, I successfully amended the Highway Bill to include development credits, design-build, and environmental streamlining. During my time on Capitol Hill, I have worked to build, maintain, and improve the safety of our roads, bridges, air service, and transit in the North Texas region.

As a fiscal conservative, I believe Americans deserve a federal government that is more efficient, more effective, less costly, and always transparent. I am a proponent of a flat tax and have introduced a flat tax bill, HR 1040, every term I have served in Congress. I follow a strict adherence to the Constitution and oppose unnecessary expansion of the federal government's control over the personal freedoms of Americans. Instead, I believe in giving people more control over their lives and their money. I am committed to reducing illegal immigration into our country and have taken action to ensure our borders are secure and our immigration laws are enforced. I strongly oppose any proposal to grant amnesty to illegal immigrants.

During my time on Capitol Hill, I have earned a reputation as a problem-solver who seeks sensible solutions to the challenges Americans face and have received several awards including: the Guardian of Small Business award by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB); the Spirit of Enterprise award by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and the Taxpayer Hero award from the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste; among others.

Today, I represent the majority of Denton County and parts of Tarrant County. I was raised in Denton, and attended The Selwyn School, graduating in 1968 as valedictorian. In addition, I graduated with both an undergraduate and a master's degree from North Texas State University, now the University of North Texas.

I earned my M.D. from the University of Texas Medical School in Houston, and completed my residency programs at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. I also earned a master's degree in Medical Management from the University of Texas at Dallas, and in May 2009, was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Public Service from the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center.

My wife, Laura, and I have been married for 42 years. We have three children and two grandsons.

## Connect With Me

[www.burgess.house.gov](http://www.burgess.house.gov)



# Committee Assignments

## Energy and Commerce Committee

I am a member of the [House Energy and Commerce Committee](#), the oldest standing legislative committee in the U.S. House of Representatives, and considered to be one of the most powerful committees. This committee has wide-ranging jurisdiction, presiding over all matters relating to telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health, air quality and environmental health, the supply and delivery of energy, and interstate and foreign commerce in general.

This jurisdiction extends over five cabinet-level departments (U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency) and many independent agencies (Federal Trade Commission, Food and Drug Administration, Federal Communications Commission, Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission). During the 114th Congress, I continue to serve in the following positions:

- **Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade.** Jurisdiction includes: Interstate and foreign commerce, including all trade matters within the jurisdiction of the full committee; regulation of commercial practices (the Federal Trade Commission), including sports-related matters; consumer affairs and consumer protection, including privacy matters generally; data security; consumer product safety (the Consumer Product Safety Commission); product liability; motor vehicle safety; and regulation of travel, tourism, and time.
- **Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations.** Jurisdiction includes: oversight of agencies, departments, and programs within the jurisdiction of the full committee, and investigations within such jurisdiction.
- **Member, Subcommittee on Health.** Jurisdiction includes: Public health and quarantine; hospital construction; mental health; biomedical research and development; health information technology, privacy, and cybersecurity; public health insurance (Medicare, Medicaid) and private health insurance; medical malpractice and medical malpractice insurance; food, drugs, and cosmetics; drug abuse; the Department of Health and Human Services; the National Institutes of Health; the Centers for Disease Control; Indian Health Service; and all aspects of the above-referenced jurisdiction related to the Department of Homeland Security.

## Rules Committee

I was asked again to serve on the powerful [House Rules Committee](#) for the 114th Congress. Chaired by fellow Texas Representative, Pete Sessions, the Rules Committee establishes the parameters of debate for every bill considered by the House of Representatives on the House floor. The committee consists of nine Republicans and four Democrats and meets weekly to discuss the floor schedule and vote on bills for debate. As a member of this committee, I am in a unique position to influence policy on every aspect of the House agenda, including issues pertaining to health care, energy, spending, national security, and intelligence.

- During the second session of the 114th Congress, the Rules Committee has met about 50 times to move critical pieces of legislation to the House Floor for consideration.
- I supported numerous key amendments to major pieces of legislation so that they could be considered by the full House, including an amendment made in order to the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act that would require the Department of Defense to report to Congress how far along it is on being able to pass an audit. Despite a law in 1990 requiring the action, the DOD has yet to achieve an audit and be accountable for its spending. This legislation would correct that lapse.
- I managed 9 Rules on the House floor, providing for the consideration of key pieces of legislation pertaining to health care and energy policy.

# Caucus Membership

A Congressional caucus, also known as a Congressional Member Organization, is a group of members of the United States Congress that meets to pursue common legislative objectives. A caucus can be bi-partisan and contain members of both houses. Because a caucus is comprised of members with similar ideas and goals, it can be quite important and powerful.

## Caucus Chairman/Co-Chair

- Congressional Health Care Caucus
- Congressional Motorcycle Caucus
- Congressional Multiple Sclerosis Caucus
- Congressional Flat Tax Caucus
- Congressional Osteoporosis Caucus

## Caucus Membership:

- Bipartisan Congressional Privacy Caucus
- Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease
- Bipartisan Cystic Fibrosis Caucus
- Bipartisan Disaster Relief Caucus
- Coalition for Autism Research and Education
- Congressional Affordable Medicines Caucus
- Congressional Afghan Caucus
- Congressional Allergy and Asthma Caucus
- Congressional Anti-Terrorism Caucus
- Congressional Army Caucus
- Congressional Automotive Performance & Motorsport Caucus
- Congressional Aviation Caucus
- Congressional Balanced Budget Amendment Caucus
- Congressional Bike Caucus
- Congressional Boating Caucus
- Congressional Caucus on Community Health Centers
- Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans
- Congressional Caucus on Parkinson's Disease
- Congressional Diabetes Caucus
- Congressional Caucus on Sovereignty
- Congressional Downs Syndrome Caucus
- Congressional Dyslexia Caucus
- Congressional Efficiency Caucus
- Congressional Horse Caucus
- Congressional High Technology Caucus
- Congressional Mental Health Caucus
- Congressional Navy and Marine Corps Caucus
- Congressional Pakistan Caucus
- Congressional Pro-Life Caucus
- Congressional Research and Development Caucus
- Congressional Taiwan Caucus
- Congressional United Services Organization Caucus
- Congressional Western Caucus
- GOP Doctors Caucus
- House Air Force Caucus
- House Agriculture Energy Users Caucus
- House Biofuels Caucus
- House General Aviation Caucus
- House Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus
- House Tea Party Caucus
- Military Veterans Caucus
- National Guard and Reserve Components Caucus
- Next Gen 9-1-1 Caucus
- Immigration Reform Caucus
- Zero Capital Gains Tax Caucus

## Statement of Principles for Ethical Conduct

As a Member of Congress, I have an open door policy for any constituent of the 26th District of Texas to meet with me or my staff in my [Texas office](#) or my [Washington, D.C. office](#). Other persons or groups representing communities, large or small businesses, or themselves with concerns impacting the 26th District are welcome to [request a meeting with me](#) and my staff as well. I do my very best to try and schedule as many meetings and events as possible in a timely fashion.

Such meetings or event requests are based upon need and availability and no other outside influences are taken into consideration. I take my job as a representative of the people of the 26th District very seriously, and I believe that when I am called upon to make a decision, the only voices that I look to for input are those residing within the borders of the district I represent.

The people of the 26th District have entrusted me with the responsibility of this office and I am honored to have that trust. An important part of this role is transparency. As the steward of this congressional office, it is my fiduciary duty to ensure that I conduct my personal dealings and the business of this office both ethically and with dignity. Each year I provide my [Financial Disclosure](#) to the U.S. House of Representatives as required. Additionally, each quarter the U.S. House of Representatives produces a [Statement of Disbursements](#), which provides specific information concerning the expenses and disbursements for each office. I believe it is important to be accountable and provide transparency in the dealings of our elected officials and government offices.



## Focus on Constituent Services

One of the most important things I do as your U.S. Representative is help you gain access to and information about the federal government. Although I cannot override the decisions made by a federal agency, I can often intervene on a constituent's behalf to answer questions, find solutions, or just cut through the red tape.

- **How May I Help?** – When a federal agency has failed to respond in a timely manner to a request for assistance or has otherwise been unwilling to provide a level of relief that agency regulations appear to support, a [Congressional Inquiry](#) may be utilized to seek a response. While a favorable reply cannot always be promised, every review and consideration will be afforded based on the merits of the agency concern to seek either a resolution or an explanation of the limiting legal guidelines the agency must follow in relation to your concern.
- **Review** – Together we will clarify the issue, identify your progress within the inquiry process and develop a strategy to assist you in the most efficient pursuit of your goal. My office will serve as a mediator to ensure that your request is provided for full review and consideration by the appropriate officials.
- **Closure** – We will pursue an answer to either provide a satisfactory resolution to your concern or a clear explanation of the limiting legal guidelines that prevent the agency from providing the desired answer.
- **Empower** – We will seek to identify resources that may be helpful in further supporting and documenting your claim so you can maximize your appeal rights and other avenues that may be available for further assistance. Through this process I will seek to provide excellence in service of the constituent needs related to the agencies of the government.

## Statement of Principles that Guide Legislative Decisions

I have a strong moral philosophy that guides my life and informs the manner in which I represent the State of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives. Every vote I cast in Congress starts with you, the people of the 26th District of Texas. I was sent by the people of our district to Washington not to promote any personal agenda, but to bring your voice to our nation's capital. Before each vote I ask myself, 'is the measure before us necessary, good for our district and our state, is this something my neighbors want, and is it allowed under the Constitution?' I always review your phone calls, emails, and letters before a vote to ensure that I continue to be in touch with your thoughts on the issues before Congress.

Our federal government was meant to protect the inalienable rights articulated in the Declaration of Independence. Thus, I will only support legislation that protects your constitutional rights and liberties and is allowed under the powers given to Congress under the Constitution. I also oppose legislation that is redundant, unnecessarily expands government control over our freedom, or increases the role of the federal government in your life.

In addition, I am committed to protecting your pocketbook. I will not support legislation that hurts the economy, slows job growth, raises taxes, or burdens the taxpayers of today or tomorrow with greater debt. Taxpayers deserve a federal government that is more efficient, less costly, and always transparent.

I am fiscally and socially conservative, and I believe that the federal government must be responsible to the people – not the other way around. Whether through my support for a balanced budget that pays down our national debt, ensuring a strong national defense, or giving people more control over their lives and their money, I am committed to shrinking the size of government to only what is necessary to assure your freedom and protect your rights.

## About the 26th District of Texas

The 26th United States Congressional District of Texas is located in the heart of North Texas. The 26th District includes most of Denton County, as well as large portions of Tarrant County, and a sliver of Dallas County.

- In Denton County, I represent the cities of Argyle, Aubrey, Bartonville, Copper Canyon, Corinth, Draper, Cross Roads, Denton, DISH, Double Oak, Flower Mound, Frisco, Hackberry, Haslet, Hickory Creek, Highland Village, Justin, Krugerville, Krum, Lake Dallas, Lakewood Village, Lewisville, Lincoln Park, Little Elm, Northlake, Oak Point, Pilot Point, Ponder, Providence Village, Roanoke, Sanger, Shady Shores, The Colony and Trophy Club.
- In Tarrant County, I represent the cities of Haltom City, Haslet, Keller, North Richland Hills, Watauga, Westlake and Fort Worth.

The 26th United States Congressional District of Texas continues to flourish. Rapid growth and business expansions from Dallas and the Tarrant County area make the District a thriving economic center. The University of North Texas, Texas Woman's University, and North Central Texas College anchor a large student base within the District.

The 26th District is also home to the Barnett Shale, the largest field of natural gas reserves in the country, which supports local economic development, jobs, and provides clean energy to the region and the country. Agriculture plays an important role in the 26th District. Ranchers raise horses, beef cattle, sheep and goats, while farmers grow corn, wheat, hay, and other crops. The impact of farming and ranching results in thousands of jobs and a contribution of hundreds of millions of dollars to the regional and statewide economies.

The 26th District is home to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Region VI Headquarters in Denton, Texas, which provides assistance to a five-state region: Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and New Mexico. Its mission is to reduce the loss of life and property, and to protect institutions through an emergency management program of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. It is also home to the Denton Mobile Emergency Response Support Detachment.

Housing the I-35 East and West corridors, the 26th District is a vital artery for Texas and international transportation. The District houses both the Lakeview Airport, Denton Municipal Airport, Northwest Regional Airport, and Alliance Airport. The 26th District also sports the Texas Motor Speedway, which hosts two Nextel-NASCAR events in the spring and fall.



## 2016 Constituent Services By The Numbers

### Number of cases opened with various federal agencies: 521

- Veterans Affairs—91
- U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services—96
- Social Security and Medicare—110
- Internal Revenue Service—43
- United States Postal Service—26
- Department of Defense—53
- Department of State—16
- Department of Education—9
- Office of Personnel Management—15
- Various other agencies—66

### Constituent Correspondence:

- Received and responded to more than 39,000 pieces of correspondence

### Events and Meetings:

- Traveled more than 6,100 miles in North Texas
- Held or attended more than 400 events
- Held 3 town hall meetings and 2 Summits

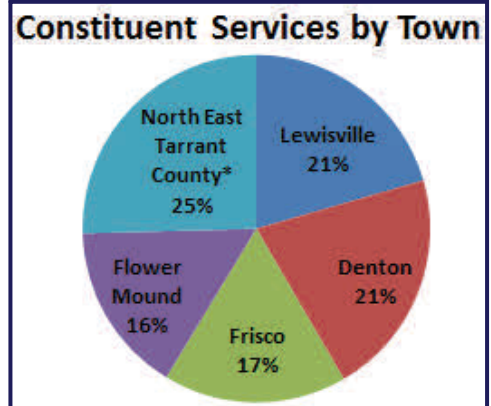
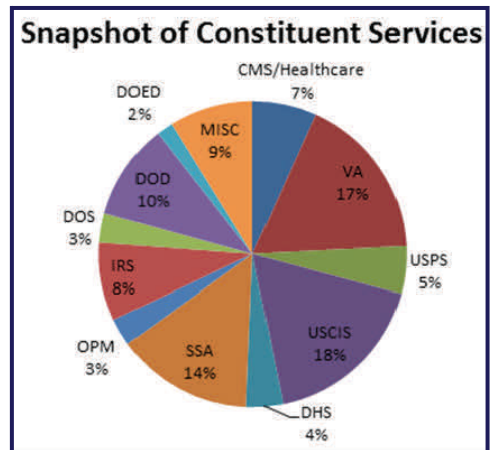
### Other Services Provided:

- Provided U.S. Capitol tours to 1,580 people
- Hosted 22 interns in my Washington, D.C. and Texas offices
- Assisted in having 126 flags flown over the U.S. Capitol

## Constituent Services

One of the most important things I do as your U.S. Representative is help you gain access to and information about the federal government. Although I cannot override the decisions made by a federal agency, I can often intervene on a person's behalf to answer questions, find solutions, or just cut through the red tape.

Throughout 2016, **466** constituents from the district received assistance in the form of a congressional inquiry to address an issue or concern with a federal agency and I was able to resolve **490** before the end of the year. Some of the more frequent topics I assisted with included benefits from the Social Security Administration, the Affordable Care Act, Department of Veterans Affairs, Internal Revenue Service and United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. In addition, my casework staff assisted constituents with **2,672** casework updates, informational referrals and non-legislative issues through telephone contact, postal mail and e-mail. More than **50%** of the constituents who contacted my office with concerns relating to a federal agency resided in Lewisville, Denton, Frisco, Flower Mound and NE Tarrant County.



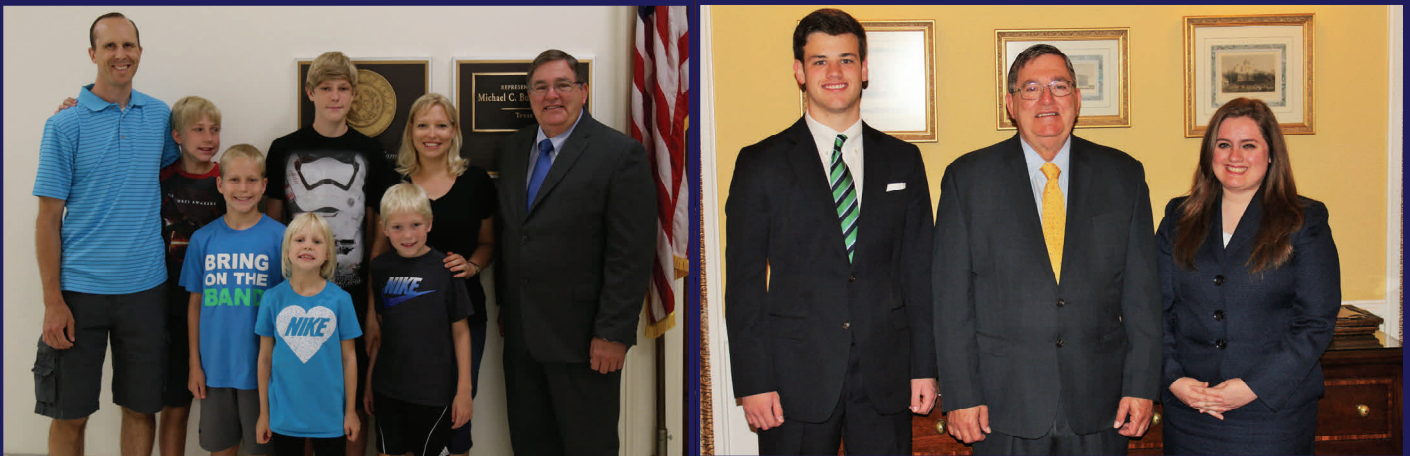
\* Includes Fort Worth, Watauga, Keller, North Richland Hills, Haltom City, Northlake, Roanoke



## Tours, Internships, and Assistance

During 2016, over **1,580** people received a tour of the U.S. Capitol from a request that was made through my office. My Washington, D.C. office assisted over **804** families and groups in requesting tickets for a tour of the White House this year as well. In addition, my office assisted in having **126** flags flown over the U.S. Capitol.

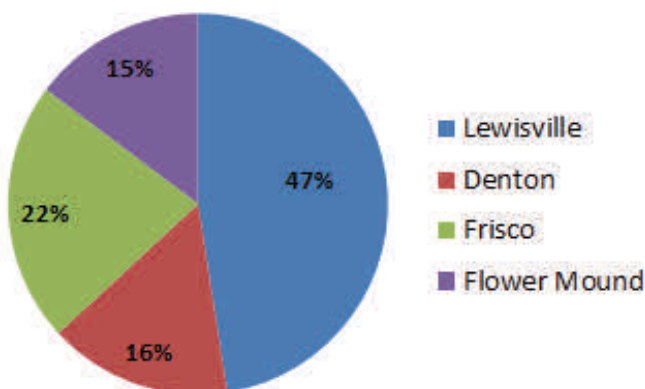
My Washington, D.C. and Texas offices hosted **22** college and high school interns from such schools as the University of North Texas, the University of Texas, Texas Tech University, Freed-Hardeman University, American University (Washington, D.C.), Southern Methodist University, the University of Denver, Wagner College (NY), Liberty Christian School (Argyle), Coram Deo Academy (Flower Mound), Baylor University, and Texas A&M University.



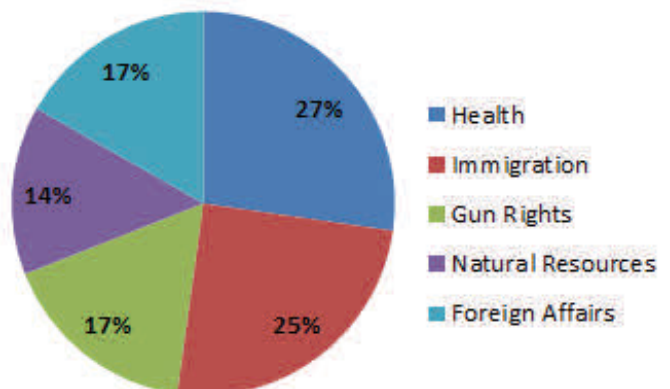
## Correspondence with North Texans

Since the beginning of 2016, more than **39,000** North Texans have contacted me through email, letters, phone calls, and faxes, to express their concerns and communicate their opinions to me on various topics. **Healthcare policy** was by far the most common topic of communication with more than **3,600** pieces of correspondence received. That issue was followed by people expressing their concerns over **immigration**, with more than **3,300** pieces of correspondence, and **Gun Rights**, with more than **2,200** pieces of correspondence.

Correspondence by Town



Correspondence Issue Areas



## Events and Meetings

In 2016, I traveled more than **6,100** miles in North Texas. I held or attended more than **400** events, including **20 Chamber of Commerce meetings, 165 health care related meetings and events** and **157 meetings that covered everything from transportation, the economy, energy and education.**

Over the course of the year, I held **3** general town hall meetings in July at The Colony High School, at Keller Middle School and at Lewisville High School-Harmon Campus as well as **2** summits that brought leaders from the local, state and federal levels together to address key issues facing North Texans. In addition, I hosted the annual “Artistic Discovery” High School Art Competition and co-hosted the North Texas Service Academies Forum.

**Emergency Preparedness Summit:** The 8th Annual Emergency Preparedness Summit was held on April 23 at Aubrey High School and was well attended by over 800 adults and children. The weather keynote speakers Brad Barton, Chief Meteorologist for WBAP News/Talk 820 AM Radio, and Mark Fox, Warning & Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service - Weather Forecast Office DFW, addressed weather forecasting and broadcasting. The event included a panel of experts from the local, regional, state and federal levels that addressed “How are our communities and schools prepared to respond and recover from crisis situations?” Live presentations were made by team members and canines with Texas Task Force 2 Search & Rescue as well as a demonstration of how drones can be utilized in disaster response by UNT’s Department of Engineering. There was a large fair with indoor booths and outdoor exhibits where weather and disaster specific organizations presented and distributed pertinent consumer information.



**Energy Efficiency Summit:** The 10th Annual Energy Efficiency Summit was held on July 23 at the University of North Texas’ Discovery Park in Denton. Keynote speaker Bill Magness, President & CEO of the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, addressed the challenges and opportunities faced by ERCOT’s operation and management of the state’s electric power grid. He joined a panel of energy industry leaders and experts: Curtis Trivitt, Senior Vice President - CoServ, Holly Raeder, Area Manager – Oncor, and Phil Williams, General Manager - Denton Municipal Electric, to discuss the difficult task these organizations face in providing plentiful, reliable and affordable energy to Texans. There were also presentations regarding practical applications for energy efficiency at home by Home Depot, transit efficiency in personal commuting by Drew Campbell, Senior Partner - Capitol Insight, and corporate fuel efficiency by Mike Martin, North Texas Transportation - UPS. In addition, there was also an indoor Energy Efficiency Fair with booths providing energy-related information and resources as well as an Energy Efficient Auto Show.

**Visits to U.S.- Mexico Border:** In February 2016, I joined the Congressional Border Security Caucus on a tour of the Rio Grande Valley sector of the U.S.- Mexico border, led by Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX). While at the border, I was briefed by the U.S. Border Patrol on the surge of illegal immigrants and unaccompanied minors into the country, as well as the strain that unauthorized immigrants are putting on our system. In August 2016, I visited the Rio Grande Valley’s first central processing center for unaccompanied alien children (UAC) that have entered into the U.S. illegally. The purpose of the visit was to see the current state of the unaccompanied minor crisis at the border. Additionally, I was briefed by leadership at the Rio Grande Valley’s Centralized Processing Center on the process by which unaccompanied alien children are processed from apprehension to intake and then to ultimate transition out of the facility.



# Special Recognition Programs

## 2016 Congressional Veteran Commendation

The Congressional Veteran Commendation (CVC) was created in 2005 to honor the distinguished living veterans of Texas' 26th District. This year's commendations were presented on November 10 at the annual "Salute Our Veterans" luncheon sponsored by the Highland Village Business Association and the City of Highland Village. I was pleased to present a commendation and flag flown over the U.S. Capitol to these five worthy veterans. Nominations were solicited from the public and those chosen to receive this year's Congressional Veteran Commendation were:

**Roberta DuTeil – Bartonville  
(U.S. Navy)**

**William "Bill" Lawrence – Highland Village  
(U.S. Air Force)**

**Virginia "Ginger" Simonson – Highland Village  
(U.S. Army)**

**Clinton Turner – Denton  
(U.S. Army)**

**Charles "Chuck" Wright – Frisco  
(U.S. Marine Corps)**



## U.S. Service Academies

On April 2, I co-hosted the annual North Texas Academies Forum with 12 other congressional offices to inform high school students about the U.S. Service Academies. Over **700** students and parents attended. Students requesting appointments to the U.S. Service Academies are rigorously evaluated on a variety of criteria including academic performance, leadership qualifications and physical preparedness. Appointments to an academy must be preceded by a nomination from a Member of Congress, Academy Superintendent, the Vice President or a military connected nomination. The exception is to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, where a nomination is not required for consideration, but appointments are based upon a competitive nationwide admissions process. The 26th District Service Academy Board, comprised of academy graduates and representatives from higher education and the community, is chaired by Lt. General Charles R. Hamm, retired former Superintendent of the U.S. Air Force Academy and 26th district resident. The Board recommends to me for nomination those outstanding service academy candidates selected through comprehensive screenings and personal interviews.

On June 17, **19** outstanding students residing in the 26th District of Texas who accepted appointments to the U.S. Service Academies were honored at a reception hosted by the City of Denton, the Denton Airport and the Denton Airshow. These young men and women are attending the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY, the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY, and the U.S. Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, CO. I presented the appointees with a Special Certificate of Congressional Recognition and an American flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in honor of their appointments.

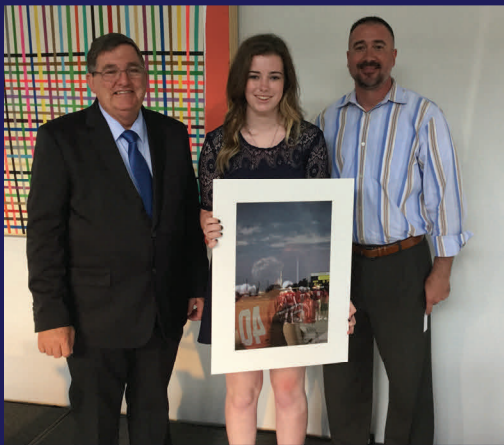


# Special Recognition Programs Continued

## High School Art Competition: “An Artistic Discovery”

The 14th annual 26th District Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery,” was open to public, private and home-schooled high school students re-siding in or attending schools in the district. Entries were submitted digitally by art teachers on behalf of their students. This provided an opportunity for a “Texas Choice” winner to be selected by popular vote in a virtual gallery on my website. Ms. Wendy Ampuero a senior at Little Elm High School and student of Mark Parr, was the winner of this category for her colored pencil artwork entitled “Warrior Woman.” The competition was judged by professional artist and instructor Jo Williams. Williams reviewed the posted artwork online and determined the contest finalists based upon artistic merit, selecting a “Best of School” award for one student from each school based on her appraisal of artwork that had a high level of artistic merit and execution. These students were also finalists in the competition.

I honored the finalists with a “Certificate of Congressional Recognition” at a reception on April 25 at the Patterson-Appleton Art Center in Denton hosted by the art competition’s co-sponsor, The Greater Denton Arts Council. Meghan Adams, a senior art student of Kathy Toews at Marcus High School in Flower Mound, won the Grand Prize in the 2016 competition with her color photograph entitled “One Team.” As the Grand Prize winner, Adams will have her artwork displayed for an entire year in the U.S. Capitol. In addition, Bryant Grizzle, a senior at Flower Mound High School and a student of Michelle Harper, won First Place for his pen drawing entitled “Corralled but Content.” Bryant will have his artwork displayed in the Lake Dallas district office for the next year. AccessBank Texas provided cash prizes for the top 3 winners and Southwest Airlines provided the Grand Prize winner with 2 tickets to fly to Washington, DC for the national reception on June 23.



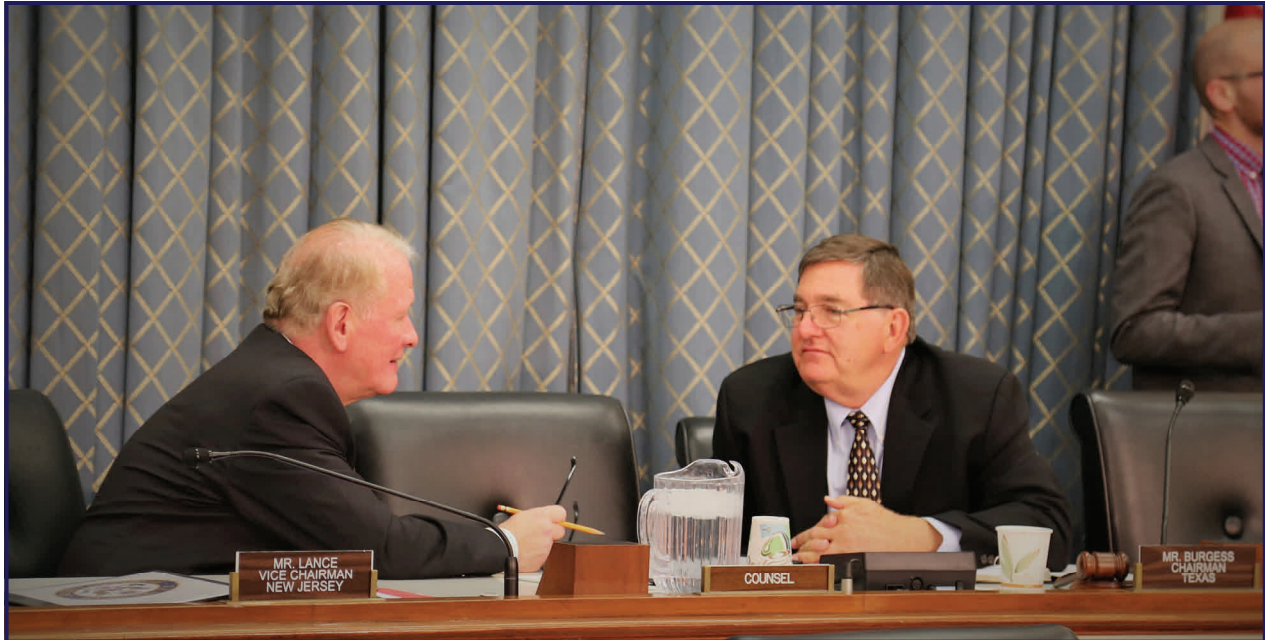
## Legislative Work



### Snapshot of Legislative Accomplishments

- Participated in **46** hearings in the Energy and Commerce Committee
- Participated in over **50** hearings in the Rules Committee
- Participated in more than **24** markups in the Energy and Commerce Committee
- Chaired **15** Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing & Trade hearings
- Cast **610** votes, a **99.2%** attendance record
- Introduced **9** bills
- Co-sponsored **95** bills
- Member of the Helsinki Commission

# Commerce, Manufacturing & Trade Subcommittee



Chairman Burgess presided over one of the most successful years, and in turn, one of the most successful congresses, for the Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade (CMT).

As Chairman of the congressional subcommittee with jurisdiction over Federal Trade Commission, the National Highway Traffic Safety Commission, the Consumer Products Safety Commission, and the U.S. Trade Representative, Congressman Burgess had an active year in covering a wide array of topics.

Continuing the subcommittee’s second year of hearings under the “Disruptor Series” umbrella, Chairman Burgess focused on topics ranging from 3D printing, wearable devices, digital currency and the blockchain, health apps, advanced robotics, and autonomous vehicles.

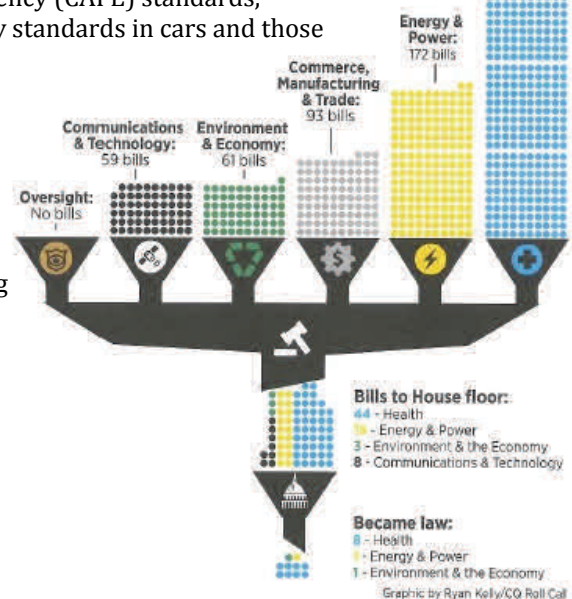
The subcommittee continued its critical oversight role in investigating the issues surrounding the Takata airbag explosions and educating the public on the critical role the NHTSA plays in recalls of dangerous automotive products.

In conjunction with the Subcommittee on Energy and Power, Chairman Burgess held a hearing on the Environmental Protection Agency’s Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFE) standards, examining the role of the federal government in setting fuel efficiency standards in cars and those standards’ impact on consumers.

Legislatively, the Subcommittee examined several critical pieces of legislation to update and streamline the FTC’s authorizing statute, including reining in the agency’s ability to hamstring companies through 20-year consent decrees.

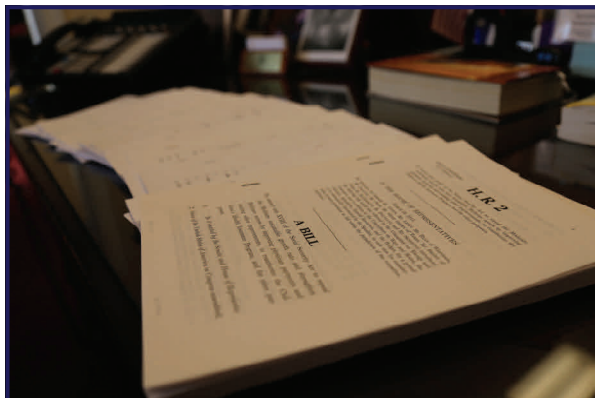
Moreover, the Subcommittee saw several of its bills achieve action on the full House Floor, including H.R. 3242, the Child Nicotine Poisoning Prevention Act, H.R. 3154, the E-Warranty Act, H.R. 5111, the Consumer Review Fairness Act, H.R. 5092, the Reinforcing American-Made Products Act, and H.R. 5104, the Better Online Ticket Sales (BOTS) Act.

*Roll Call*, one of Capitol Hill’s leading publications, highlighted the achievements that the Energy and Commerce Committee has accomplished over the past two years, including the successes of the CMT Subcommittee, which reviewed over 100 pieces of legislation in total over the past two years under Chairman Burgess’ leadership.



## Legislation Introduced in 2016

- **H.R. 4504**, the Energy Efficiency Free Market Act of 2016, introduced February 9, would foster free market-driven innovation and technological advances, by striking all government-mandated energy efficiency standards currently required on a variety of consumer products found in American homes.
- **H.R. 5093**, TIME Act, introduced April 28, would place an eight-year cap on most consent orders from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to small businesses.
- **H.R. 5662**, introduced July 7, with Rep. Glenn Grothman (R-WI), Rep. Frank Guinta (R-NH), and Rep. John Duncan (R-TN), would provide an exception to certain mandatory minimum sentence requirements for a person employed outside the United States by a Federal agency, who uses, carries, or possesses a firearm issued by the agency and is accused of a crime while on-duty.
- **H.R. 6229**, MISSION ZERO Act, introduced on September 28, with Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL), Rep. Gene Green (D-TX) and Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC), would improve our nation's trauma care system with military-civilian partnerships by allowing for grants to be used to cover the costs of integrating military trauma care providers into trauma care. Senators Mark Kirk (R-IL), John Cornyn (R-TX) and Johnny Isakson (R-GA) introduced companion legislation in the Senate.
- **H.R. 6139**, Comprehensive Immunosuppressive Drug Coverage for Kidney Transplant Patients Act of 2016, introduced September 22 with Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI). This bill amends Title II of the Social Security Act to extend the months of coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant patients. The bill would cover transplant anti-rejection medications only – all other Medicare coverage would cease 3 years after the transplant, as under current law. This bill has received strong support from the chronic kidney disease community.
- **HR. 6079**, Semipostal Stamp Clarification Act of 2016, introduced September 20, would require that any new Semipostal Stamp (stamps sold by the USPS at a higher cost to raise funds for various causes) be created through an Act of Congress. Under current law, Semipostal Stamps are created and raise funds for any program directed by the USPS, without prior Congressional approval.
- **H.R. 5547**, Health Care Price Transparency Promotion Act of 2016, introduced June 21 with Rep. Gene Green (D-TX), would require states to establish and maintain laws requiring disclosure of information on hospital charges, to make such information available to the public, and to provide individuals with information about estimated out-of-pocket costs for health care services.
- **H.R. 5510**, FTC Process and Transparency Reform Act of 2016, introduced June 16, would make overdue reforms to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) including establishing new requirements related to investigations, consent orders, and reporting requirements.
- **H.R. 5395**, ECHO Act, introduced June 7 with Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA), would require the Government Accountability Office and the Department of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with the Health Resources and Services Administration, to examine the benefits of integrating the Project ECHO model into local health systems across the country.
  - This bill passed the Senate on November 29 and passed the House of Representatives on December 6. The President signed the bill into law on December 14.



## Legislation Sponsored as Lead Republican

- **H.R. 4616**, the Living Donor Protection Act of 2016, introduced with Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) on February 25 would prohibit life, disability, and long term care insurance companies from denying or limiting coverage and from charging higher premiums for living organ donors. It would also clarify that living donors may use Family Medical Leave Act time to recover from surgeries and procedures involved in donation, and direct the Department of Health and Human Services to update their materials on organ donation to reflect the new protections to encourage more individuals to consider donating an organ. Senators Mark Kirk (R-IL) and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) introduced the Senate counterpart this Congress, S.2584.

## 2016 Priority Cosponsored Legislation

In 2016, I cosponsored **95** pieces of legislation. Below are a sampling of these priority pieces of legislation:

- **H.R. 4365**, the Protecting Access to Emergency Medications Act was introduced by Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC) on January 12. This legislation would ensure the continued ability of emergency medical service professionals to access controlled substances in critical times of need. Current law would require EMS providers to obtain a prescription or verbal order from a physician in order to administer controlled substances during emergency responses. Due to the nature of emergency medicine, this rule would put lives at risk. This bill will ensure that the current practice of standing orders is protected and EMS professionals have access to life-saving medicines.
- **H.R. 4662**, the School-Based Asthma Management Program Act was introduced on March 2, by Rep. Phil Roe (R-TN). This bill would encourage public schools to implement asthma management programs and to ensure the availability of asthma rescue medications by creating an additional preference for states that require each public elementary and secondary school in the state to permit trained school personnel to administer asthma rescue medications and maintain a supply of rescue medications.
- **H.R. 3471**, the Veterans Mobility Safety Act of 2016, was introduced on September 10, 2015, by Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN). This bill would ensure that disabled veterans have access to safe and reliable automotive transportation options by directing the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish minimum standards for safety and quality of providers and servicers of automobile adaptive equipment. This bill passed on the House floor by voice vote on September 12, 2016.
- **H.R. 6176**, the Export Control Reform Act, was introduced by Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA) on September 27. This legislation would transfer regulatory responsibility for non-military-grade firearms from the Department of State to the Department of Commerce.
- **H.R. 6087**, the IDENT Fingerprint Digitization Completion Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Martha McSally (R-AZ) on September 20. This legislation would require the completion of the digitization of all remaining paper-based fingerprint records for inclusion in the Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT) of the Department of Homeland Security.
- **H.R. 5949**, the Victims Before Ransom Act, was introduced by Rep. Leonard Lance (R-NJ) on September 7. This legislation would prohibit the use of funds to make payments to Iran relating to the settlement of claims brought before the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal until Iran has paid certain compensatory damages awarded to United States persons by United States courts.
- **H.R. 5941**, the Keep Taxpayer Dollars Safe from Terrorists Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. David Young (R-IA) on September 6. This legislation would provide for congressional review of transfers of funds from Executive agencies to state sponsors of terrorism.
- **H.R. 5931**, the Prohibiting Future Ransom Payments to Iran Act, was introduced by Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA) on September 6. This legislation prohibits cash payments to the Government of Iran.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on September 22, by a vote of 254 – 163.
- **H.R. 5859**, the Community Counterterrorism Preparedness Act, was introduced by Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX) on July 14. This legislation establishes a major metropolitan area counterterrorism training and exercise grant program for emergency responders to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the most likely terrorist attack scenarios against major metropolitan areas.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on September 21, by a vote of 395 – 30.





## 2016 Priority Cosponsored Legislation

- **H.R. 5819**, was introduced by Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX) on July 14. This legislation would prohibit the admission of certain refugees for four years without congressional approval. Additionally, the Government Accountability Office would report on the national security impact of refugee admissions.
- **H.R. 5722**, the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission Act, was introduced by Rep. Joe Kennedy (D-MA) on July 11. This legislation establishes the John F. Kennedy Centennial Commission to carry out activities to honor John F. Kennedy on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, and will terminate on September 30, 2017.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on July 13, under suspension of the rules. It passed the Senate by unanimous consent on July 14, and was signed into law on July 29.
- **H.R. 5697**, the Taking Responsibility Using Secured Technologies Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX) on July 8. This legislation would prohibit granting a security clearance to, and requires revocation of the security clearance of, any federal officer or employee who has exercised extreme carelessness in the handling of classified information.
- **H.R. 5619**, Sarah's Law, was introduced by Rep. David Young (R-IA) on July 5. This legislation requires Immigration and Customs Enforcement to take into custody certain aliens who have been charged in the United States with a crime that resulted in the death or serious bodily injury of another person.
- **H.R. 5418**, the Protecting Internet Freedom Act, was introduced by Rep. Sean Duffy (R-WI) on June 9. This legislation would prohibit the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information from allowing the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's responsibility for Internet domain name system functions to cease unless a federal statute grants the Assistant Secretary such authority.
- **H.R. 5356**, was introduced by Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) on May 26. This legislation designates the facility of the United States Postal Service in Coldspring, TX as the "E. Marie Youngblood Post Office."
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on September 20, under suspension of the rules.
- **H.R. 5351**, was introduced by Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN) on May 25. This legislation prohibits the transfer of any individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on September 15, by a vote of 244 – 174.
- **H.R. 5294**, the Student Privacy Protection and Safety Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX) on May 19. This legislation would invalidate the Dear Colleague Letter on Transgender Students that was issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of Education to provide guidance to schools receiving federal financial assistance about the treatment of transgender students under the prohibitions against sex discrimination.
- **H.R. 5292**, the Air Traffic Controller Hiring Improvement Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL) on May 19. This legislation would facilitate the hiring of more air traffic controllers, and ensure that Collegiate Training Initiative graduates and veterans are considered in a separate pool from the general public and exempts them from the FAA's biographical assessment.
- **H.R. 5224**, the Criminal Alien Deportation Enforcement Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX) on May 13. This legislation would withhold financial assistance from each country that denies or unreasonably delays the acceptance of nationals of such country who have been ordered removed from the United States and to prohibit the issuance of visas to nationals of such country.
- **H.R. 5094**, the STAND for Ukraine Act, was introduced by Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY) on April 28. This legislation prohibits any federal agency from taking any action or extending any assistance that recognizes Russian sovereignty over Crimea, its airspace, or its territorial waters.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on September 21, under suspension of the rules.
- **H.R. 4980**, the Firearm Due Process Protection Act, was introduced by Rep. Tom Emmer (R-MN) on April 18. This legislation would require the National Instant Criminal Background Check System to make a final disposition of requests to correct its records within 60 days.

## 2016 Priority Cosponsored Legislation

- **H.R. 4956**, the End Executive Overreach Act, was introduced by Rep. Tom Price (R-GA) on April 15. This legislation would prohibit the use of federal funds, fees, or resources to implement an executive order issued on or after the enactment of this bill, until January 21, 2017.
- **H.R. 4926**, the Stopping Partisan Policy at the Library of Congress Act, was introduced by Rep. Diane Black (R-TN) on April 13. This legislation would direct the Library of Congress to retain the headings “Aliens” and “Illegal aliens” in the Library of Congress Subject Headings in the same manner as they were in effect during 2015.
- **H.R. 4880**, the Protecting Lives Using Surplus Equipment Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. John Ratcliffe (R-TX) on March 23. This legislation would prohibit any regulation, rule, guidance, recommendation, or policy issued after May 15, 2015, that limits the sale or donation of excess property of the Federal Government to State and local agencies for law enforcement activities.
- **H.R. 4877**, was introduced by Rep. Pete Olson (R-TX) on March 23. This legislation designated a facility of the United States Postal Service in Sugar Land, TX as the “LCpl Garrett W. Gamble, USMC Post Office Building.”
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on May 23, under suspension of the rules. It passed the Senate by unanimous consent on July 14, and was signed into law on July 29.
- **H.R. 4791**, the USCIS Act, was introduced by Rep. Dave Brat (R-VA) on March 17. This legislation would declare that all deposits into the Immigration Examinations Fee Account shall remain available to the Department of Homeland Security for reimbursement of administrative expenses, in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation acts.
- **H.R. 4768**, the Separation of Powers Restoration Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. John Ratcliffe (R-TX) on March 16. This legislation modifies the scope of judicial review of agency actions to authorize courts reviewing agency actions to decide all relevant questions of law without giving deference to the agency’s interpretation.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on July 12, by a vote of 240 – 171.
- **H.R. 4731**, the Refugee Program Integrity Restoration Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Raul Labrador (R-ID) on March 14. This legislation would cap the number of annual refugee admissions at 60,000 and require the President to submit emergency refugee admission recommendations to Congress for approval.
- **H.R. 4730**, the Unauthorized Spending Accountability Act, was introduced by Rep. Cathy McMorris-Rodgers (R-WA) on March 14. This legislation would establish a three-year reauthorization, rescission, and termination schedule for unauthorized programs funded through the annual appropriations process.
- **H.R. 4547**, the Build the Fence Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ) on February 11. This legislation would direct the Department of Homeland Security to complete the required southwest border fencing by December 31, 2017.
- **H.R. 4537**, the READI Act, was introduced by Rep. John Carter (R-TX) on February 11. This legislation would prohibit the use of a military installation to house any alien unlawfully present in the United States.
- **H.R. 4461**, the Federal Employee Rights Act, was introduced by Rep. Tom Price (R-GA) on February 4. This legislation would prohibit agencies from deducting labor organization dues from the pay of Federal employees, and prohibits employee dues collected by a labor organization from being used for any purpose not directly related to the organization’s collective bargaining activities without employee authorization.
- **H.R. 4448**, the State Sanctions Against Iranian Terrorism Act, was introduced by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL) on February 3. This legislation would secure the authority of state and local governments to adopt and enforce measures restricting investment in business enterprises in Iran.
- **H.R. 4420**, the No Welfare for Terrorists Act of 2016, was introduced by Rep. Bruce Poliquin (D-ME) on February 1. This legislation would make convicted terrorists ineligible to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program).

## 2016 Priority Cosponsored Legislation

- **H.R. 4298**, the Vietnam Helicopter Crew Memorial Act, was introduced by Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV) on December 18, 2015. This legislation directs the Department of the Army to place in Arlington National Cemetery a memorial honoring helicopter pilots and crew members who served on active duty in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era.
  - This bill passed the House of Representatives on December 7 under suspension of the rules.
- **H.R. 4828**, the Conscience Protection Act of 2016 was introduced on March 22 by Rep. John Fleming (R-LA). This bill protects health care workers and entities who object in conscience to participating in abortions for moral, ethical or religious reasons. This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to codify the prohibition against the federal government and state and local governments that receive federal financial assistance for health-related activities penalizing or discriminating against a health care provider based on the provider's refusal to be involved in, or provide coverage for, abortion. The legislation requires the Office of Civil Rights of HHS, in coordination with the Department of Justice, to investigate complaints alleging discrimination based on religious beliefs, moral conviction, or refusal to be involved in an abortion.
- **H.R. 5904**, the Taxpayers Before Insurers Act was introduced on July 14 by Rep. Mark Walker (R-NC). The ACA's three-year Transitional Reinsurance Program required HHS to collect \$25 million from insurers. Of this, the law mandated that HHS send \$5 billion directly to the U.S. Treasury to pay down Obamacare's costs: \$2 billion in 2014, \$2 billion in 2015, and \$1 billion in 2016. Of this amount, the Treasury has only received \$500 million. The Administration chose to ignore its own law and make payments directly to insurers without depositing required funds into the Treasury. This bill rescinds HHS's departmental management funds unless HHS deposits into the Treasury funds derived from contributions collected under the Transitional Reinsurance Program.
- **H.R. 3471**, the Veterans Mobility Safety Act of 2016, was introduced on September 10, 2015, by Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN). This bill would ensure that disabled veterans have access to safe and reliable automotive transportation options by directing the Department of Veterans Affairs to establish minimum standards for safety and quality of providers and servicers of automobile adaptive equipment.
  - This bill passed on the House floor by voice vote on September 12, 2016.
- **H.R. 5021**, Better Accounting for Medicaid Costs Act of 2016, was introduced on April 21 by Rep. Chris Collins (R-NY). This legislation puts in place a system to prevent CMS from issuing costly Medicaid subregulatory policies by requiring the Secretary of HHS to go through formal notice and comment rulemaking for any regulations that increase estimated total state expenditures by \$50,000,000 or federal expenditures by \$100,000,000.
- **H.R. 4352**, Faster Care for Veterans Act of 2016, was introduced on January 8 by Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA). This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to begin an 18-month pilot program in at least three Veterans Integrated Service Networks under which veterans use an Internet website to schedule and confirm appointments at VA medical facilities. This legislation represents a meaningful step towards remedying the unacceptable delays that veterans face at VA facilities.
- **H.R.4764**, Puppies Assisting Wounded Servicemembers (PAWS) Act of 2016, was introduced on March 16 by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL). This bill directs the Department of Veterans' Affairs to carry out a five-year pilot program under which the VA will provide service dogs and veterinary health insurance to certain veterans who served on active duty after September 11, 2001, and were diagnosed with, and continue to suffer from, post-traumatic stress disorder.
- **H.R. 3381**, Childhood Cancer STAR Act was introduced by Rep. Mike McCaul (R-TX) on July 29, 2015. This bill would improve efforts to identify and track childhood cancer incidences, improve the quality of life for childhood cancer survivors, ensure publicly accessible expanded access policies that provide hope for patients who have run out of options, and identify opportunities to expand the research of therapeutics necessary to treat the 15,780 children diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. every year.

## 2016 Legislative Accomplishments

- **Reform of the Federal Trade**

**Commission:** FTC plays an important role in policing emerging industries for potential consumer harms—it has a flexible mandate to prohibit “unfair” or “deceptive” acts or practices. But with flexible enforcement comes the ability to err on the side of caution. While trying to prevent potential consumer harm there is a great risk of preventing innovation and growth with it. The Energy & Commerce Committee passed my bill comprised of a series of bills that will bring overdue, targeted reforms to the FTC—the first reforms to the Commission in nearly 3 decades. This effort is about bringing consumer protection into the 21st Century and is shaped by what we learned in our subcommittee’s examination of innovative technologies.



- **CMS Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System:** On September 22, 2016, I wrote a letter to Acting Administrator Slavitt at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services expressing my concern regarding the Proposed 2017 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System, which would impair Medicare beneficiary’s access osteoporosis and bone density testing in the hospital outpatient setting. Recognizing the raised concerns, CMS addressed the issue in the Final 2017 HOPPS rule by correctly classifying a DXA test as Level 2 X-Ray and Related Services classification, and by adjusting reimbursement to a rate to ensure continued access for Medicare beneficiaries.
- **Improving Access to Maternity Care:** Across the country, women with the greatest need for maternity care services lack access to providers of such care. In an effort to increase the number of maternity health providers practicing in Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSA), I introduced H.R. 1209, the Improving Access to Maternity Care Act with Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA) that would establish a maternity care HPSA designation, in addition to dental, mental health, and primary care, so that maternity professionals who wish to participate in a primary care shortage area can seek placement in communities that need them most.
  - Recognizing the importance of expanding access to maternity care, on November 14, 2016, H.R. 1209 passed the House of Representatives by voice vote.
- **21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, H.R. 34:** Over the past year, leaders in the House and Senate met and negotiated over a final product of the 21st Century Cures Act, with a deal being announced in November of 2016. The final Cures Act, once again, contained numerous provisions that I championed. The passage of this legislation is the culmination of a thorough, bipartisan process that should stand as an example for how Congress can legislative on complex issues. The 21st Century Cures Act contains four bills that were introduced as standalone bills and two other sections that I helped author.

## 2016 Legislative Accomplishments

- The 21st Century Cures agreement provides \$6.3 billion that will:
  - Help bring drugs and devices to market more quickly and at less cost by making needed reforms to the FDA, including: expedited review for breakthrough devices, increased patient involvement in the drug approval process, a streamlined review process for combination products that are both a drug and device, and freedom from red tape for software like fitbit or calorie counting apps.
  - Provide \$4.8 billion to National Institutes of Health – \$1.8 billion for Cancer Moonshot to speed cancer research; \$1.5 billion for the BRAIN initiative to improve our understanding of diseases like Alzheimer's and speed diagnosis and treatment; \$1.5 billion for the president's Precision Medicine Initiative to drive research into the genetic, lifestyle and environmental variations of disease. It will also provide \$500 million to the Food and Drug Administration.
  - Provide \$1 billion in grants to states to address the opioid crisis.
  - Address the country's mental health crisis and ensure Americans suffering from mental illness and substance abuse disorders receive the care they need.
- After the dedication of both parties, on November 30, 2016, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures passed the House of Representatives on voice vote and was passed by the Senate on December 7, 2016. The President signed this bill into law on December 13, 2016.
- **SGR Repeal and MACRA Rule Finalized:** Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015: The Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) was enacted in 1997 and has been a source of continued concern for physicians that serve Medicare beneficiaries and for the beneficiaries themselves. While Congress has long recognized the SGR as a flawed formula, Congress has repeatedly implemented a temporary "doc fix" to prevent reimbursement cuts from year-to-year. After years of dedication with the Energy and Commerce Committee, Congress was finally able to reform the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate permanently. The bill was reintroduced with several extenders as H.R. 2, a bill number reserved for Speaker priorities. March 26, H.R. 2 passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 392-37. The bill passed the Senate without amendment on April 14, 92-8. President Obama signed the bill into law on April 16, making it Public Law No: 114-10.
  - On October 14, 2016, the Department of Health and Human Services issued the MACRA Final Rule which provides flexibility for small practices, increased opportunities to participate in Advanced Alternative Payment Models, and streamlines reporting mechanisms for participating physicians.
- **Increasing Access to Specialized Care:** I introduced H.R. 5395 alongside Rep. Matsui (D-CA), Sen. Hatch (R-UT), and Sen. Schatz (D-HI) as a bipartisan and bicameral solution to expanding access to specialty care in areas of the country where there are shortages of physicians. The bill would task the Department of Health and Human Services with evaluating the Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (Project ECHO) model to determine the impacts that it might have on our communities. Project ECHO connects physicians in shortage areas and specialists at academic medical centers, in order to increase educational opportunities and collaborative efforts for the physicians in shortage areas, so that they can provide better services for their patients. When local doctors have opportunities to learn new skills and to become more

## 2016 Legislative Accomplishments

specialized in different fields, they can provide better care to local patients and subsequently do not have to refer their patients elsewhere for care. We have already seen the success of Project ECHO in Texas, where cancer specialists at MD Anderson are working with doctors in the Rio Grande Valley to catch cervical cancer early in patients and treating patients with more specialized care that they would not otherwise be able to receive.



- **Increasing Access to Trauma Care:** I introduced H.R. 6229, along with Rep. Green (D-TX), Rep Hudson (R-NC), and Rep Castor (D-FL), in a bipartisan effort to expand access to life-saving trauma care for all Americans. The bill would establish a demonstration program that would in turn provide grants for hospitals to incorporate both full military trauma teams and individual military trauma physicians into a hospital system. As our wars in the Middle East wind down, our military physicians must continue to practice providing trauma care in case they are ever deployed again. Incorporating these providers into our nation's hospitals will both allow these providers to remain ready for future deployment and also increase the trauma care staffing in the nation's trauma centers.
- **ECHO ACT:** I introduced H.R. 2395 with Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA) that would task the Department of Health and Human Services with evaluating the Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (Project ECHO) model to determine the impacts that it might have on our communities in increasing access to care. Project ECHO connects physicians in shortage areas and specialists at academic medical centers, in order to increase educational opportunities and collaborative efforts for the physicians in shortage areas, so that they can provide better services for their patients.
  - The Senate passed my bill's counterpart, H.R. 2395, on November 29, 2016 and the House of Representatives passed it one week later, on December 6, 2016 The President signed my bill into law on December 15, 2016.



## 2016 Non-Legislative Accomplishments

- **Preservation of Access to Osteoporosis Testing for Medicare Beneficiaries:** CMS's proposed 2017 Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System rule would have severely decreased access of Medicare beneficiaries to osteoporosis testing. The rule cut the payment for an axial dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) test in the hospital outpatient setting by 37 percent, which would have resulted in fewer hospitals offering the test. Recognizing this fact, I wrote a letter to Acting Administrator Slavitt at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services expressing my concern, and urged CMS to make necessary changes in the proposed rule to ensure adequate access to a critical preventive service. On November 1, 2016, CMS released the final 2017 HOPPS rule, which acknowledged the concerns I raised, and established a payment adequate to maintain access to DXA testing in the hospital outpatient setting.
- **Ensuring Oversight and Public Participation in DEA Scheduling Action:** On August 30, the Drug Enforcement Administration announced its intention to place the active materials in the kratom plant into schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. DEA took this action with no opportunity for public comment and only 30-days' notice. In response to concerns from constituents and an inquiry from my office, on October 13, 2016, DEA issued a withdrawal of their August Notice of Intent to temporarily schedule Kratom in order to provide time for public comment and feedback. Continued oversight of federal agencies is an essential component of our nation's system of checks and balances, helping ensure the preservation of state's rights and standing as a bulwark against misguided Washington-mandated policies.
- **Lewisville Dam:** In 2015, a 161-foot slide appeared on the Lewisville Dam following heavy rainfall. During the repair, additional rainfall resulted in an increased cost of \$4 million, bringing the total cost to \$8.8 million. I met numerous times with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, sent a letter to Colonel Hudson, the Commander of the USACE Fort Worth District, and engaged with House leadership to ensure the additional \$4 million was reprogrammed to finish the slide repair. The repair was successfully completed in October 2016.
- **Lewisville Dam Safety Modifications:** For the past several years, the USACE has undertaken a Dam Safety Modification Study to determine areas of the Lewisville Dam in need of maintenance and improvement. Following the significant flooding event in 2015 that led to a slide appearing on the dam, I engaged constantly with the USACE in TX-26 and with leaders in Washington, D.C. to expedite the completion of this study and commencement of construction. The Environmental Assessment, a requirement that assesses the environmental impact of a project, was released in September 2016, and project plans should be completed by February 2017. Work is estimated to begin a full two years ahead of schedule.
- **Concealed carry at military installations and facilities:** In April 2014, Spc. Ivan Lopez-Lopez killed three soldiers and wounded 12 others at Fort Hood following an argument. In July 2015, a lone-



## 2016 Non-Legislative Accomplishments

wolf gunman attacked a recruiting station and Navy reserve center in Chattanooga, Tennessee, that left five service-members dead. In July 2015, I signed two separate letters to Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter requesting he take steps to authorize military members to carry privately-owned concealed weapons at military service centers and installations as a means of enhanced force protection. I was pleased to learn that a new Defense Department directive effective November 18, 2016, will allow military personnel to request to carry concealed handguns for protection at government facilities.

- **Audit the Pentagon:** 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 the Department of Defense (DOD). For the past several years I have introduced an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) requiring the DOD to rank every entity within the Department in order from most ready to be audited to least ready. The amendment was signed into law for the first time in last year's NDAA and the DOD finally produced a ranking of auditability. However, they still have not completed an audit. That is why I introduced this amendment again in the FY2017 NDAA. Multi-year reports will allow comparison on the DOD's progress towards a verifiable audit and keep them accountable in working toward complying with the law.
- **Reporting Flexibility for Physicians Participating in Medicare:** CMS's 2017 Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule required any practitioners who furnish a procedure that is a 10- or 90-day global code report the pre- and post- operative services furnished on a claim using proposed "G-codes." The proposal would have imposed an undue administrative burden on the surgical community. The proposed rule also included CMS authority to implement a 5 percent withhold in payment for those who did not comply. Recognizing this potential reporting burden on physicians, I joined a letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Burwell and Acting Administrator of CMS Andy Slavitt regarding the 2017 Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule expressing my concern. CMS heeded the issues we raised and finalized a policy that utilizes 10- and 90-day global services reporting in a representative sample of nine states to collect data on the number of post-operative visits they provide. The finalized policy also did not include the 5 percent withhold.
- **Providing Quality Care for Alzheimer's Patients:** As a co-chair of the Bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's disease I believe it is essential to improve care and provide public awareness for this devastating disease. That is why this Congress I was a co-sponsor of H.R. 1559, the Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer's Act of 2015. This bill would require Medicare to cover comprehensive Alzheimer's care planning. In addition to cosponsoring H.R. 1559, I joined a letter to Acting Administrator of CMS, Andy Slavitt, spearheaded by fellow Task Force co-chairs Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) and Maxine Waters (D-CA) urging CMS to create a permanent code for cognitive impairment care planning. CMS recognized the importance of cognitive care planning by creating a new reimbursement code in its 2017 Physician Fee Schedule final rule. This represents a significant step recognizing the importance of cognitive impairment care planning.



## Sponsored Legislation Offered on Behalf of the Rules Committee on the House Floor

In 2016, I managed 9 Rules on the House floor, providing for the consideration of key pieces of legislation pertaining to health care and energy policy.

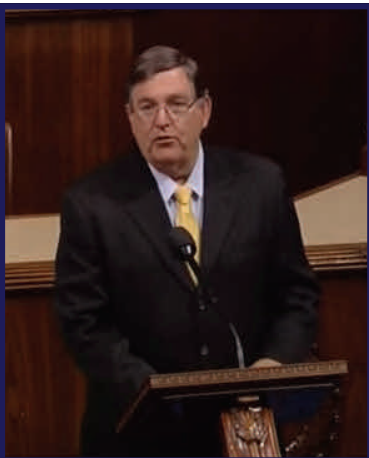
### Amendments Offered in the House Rules Committee

I supported key amendments to major pieces of legislation so that they could be considered by the full House, including having an amendment made in order to the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act that would require the Department of Defense (DOD) to report to congress on its progress in passing an audit. Despite a 1990 law requiring this action, the DOD has yet to achieve an audit and be accountable for its spending.

### Amendments Offered on the House Floor

- **H.Admt.192:** The House of Representatives accepted this amendment to the Energy & Water Appropriations bill to prohibit the enforcement of the 2007 Energy law which banned the sale of 90-watt incandescent light bulbs. This amendment has been accepted every year since 2011 and has prevented the Department of Energy from enforcing its ban on the sale of these light bulbs ever since, protecting consumer freedom and choice. The amendment prohibits the use of funds to implement or enforce provisions with respect to BPAR, BR and ER incandescent reflector lamps. An amendment numbered 17 is printed in the Congressional Record to prohibit the use of funds to implement or enforce section 430.32(x), with respect to light bulbs.
- **H.Admt.632:** The House of Representatives accepted this amendment to the FY2016 Interior and Environmental Protection Agency Appropriations bill, prohibiting the use of funds by EPA to hire any new employees under title 42 of the Public Health Service Act or to transfer current employees from the GS pay scale to title 42 status.

### Amendments Offered in the Energy and Commerce Committee



During a markup in the Energy & Commerce Committee of H.R. 8, the North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2016, I offered an amendment that would repeal the Department of Energy's ability to regulate and mandate federal standards for energy efficiency usage of consumer and commercial products including light bulbs, ceiling fans, HVAC units, boilers, radiators, refrigerators, and ranges.

Although the amendment was ultimately not accepted, this served as an important marker for moving energy efficiency advancements toward a more purely free market system.

## Helsinki Commission: Commission on Security & Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

The Helsinki Commission is an independent federal agency created in 1976 to monitor and encourage compliance with the Helsinki Final Act, or Helsinki Accords. The Commission consists of nine members from the U.S. Senate, nine members from the U.S. House of Representatives, and one member each from the Departments of State, Defense, and Commerce. The Commission convenes public hearings and briefings on OSCE-related topics, issues public reports and organizes official delegations to participating states. The Commission includes 57 participating states and 11 partners for cooperation.

### Ukraine elections

Over the past couple of years, unrest in Ukraine has led to the ousting of the government, the takeover of Crimea by Russia, and continued conflict in eastern Ukraine. In May 2014, I traveled with a Congressional delegation to observe Ukraine's presidential elections; Petro Poroshenko was elected Ukraine's fifth president. President Poroshenko addressed a joint session of Congress on September 18, 2014, where he thanked the U.S. for its support in fighting Russian aggression and separatists.

I also observed Ukraine's parliamentary elections in October 2014. I was the only member of Congress to travel to Ukraine to observe both the presidential and parliamentary elections following the unrest that toppled the government.

### Hearings

This year the OSCE held hearings on human rights and freedoms in Europe and Eurasia, preventing deadly attacks on the European Jewish community, combatting corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and relief for survivors and accountability for perpetrators of atrocities in Iraq and Syria. The OSCE also held public briefings on internet freedom in the age of dictators and terrorists, Moldova, ongoing human rights and security violations in Russian-occupied Crimea, and nuclear pollution in the Arctic. I have also worked with OSCE staff to monitor the ongoing conflict in Syria, and will continue to maintain a focus on the acceptance rate for refugee applicants, as well as the process and procedures for determining whether a person is a threat to the United States or has been a victim of abuse. I look forward to working with the next Administration to improve these programs in order to keep Americans safe.

## Energy & Commerce Medicaid Task-Force

For the past year, I have had the pleasure of serving on the Medicaid Task-Force, a House Republican-led group tasked by Energy & Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) to take a deep dive into Medicaid policies and to develop proposals to reform the program. Our work on the Task Force has ranged from talks on largescale reforms to discussions on granular issues that the country faces in delivering care to the Medicaid population. The Task Force will release a final report that will outline a series of opportunities for Congress to consider for Medicaid next year. The report is by no means an exhaustive list of recommendations, but can serve as a blueprint to supplement the House Republican's Better Way agenda for Medicaid and offer additional insights on ways to improve the program for America's most vulnerable populations.

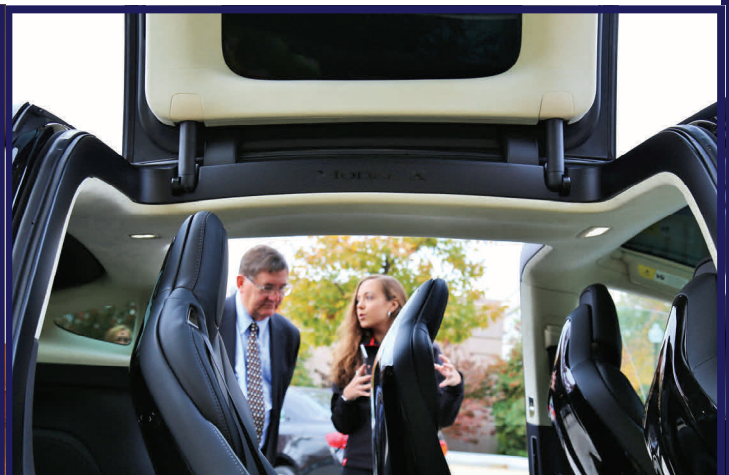


## Letters That I Led In 2016

- On January 7, 2016, I led a letter to Colonel Calvin C. Hudson II, Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Fort Worth District, requesting that the USACE expedite the repair of the Lewisville Dam slide through a reprogramming of funds. I further requested that the USACE complete the Dam Safety Modification Study by June 2016 and answer four questions pertaining to both the slide repair and the Dam Safety Modification Study.
- On February 10, 2016, I led a letter to Department of State Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Anne Richard, requesting answers to questions following a Helsinki Commission hearing regarding Europe's refugee crisis and how the U.S., EU and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe should respond.
- On March 14, 2016, I led a bipartisan letter signed by 79 Members of the House of Representatives to House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and Ranking Member Peter Visclosky (D-IN), requesting that the committee provide \$10 million for the Multiple Sclerosis Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017.
- On March 21, 2016, I led a bipartisan letter signed by 45 Members of the House of Representatives to Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK) of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies and Ranking Member Rosa Delauro (D-CT) requesting that the committee include funding in FY 2017 for the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education Program.
- On March 21, 2016, I led a bipartisan letter signed by 45 Members of the House of Representatives to Chairman Tom Cole (R-OK) of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies and Ranking Member Rosa Delauro (D-CT) requesting that the committee include \$28 million in FY 2017 for the trauma and emergency care program.
- On June 17, 2016, I led a letter with Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) to Secretary of State John Kerry and Centers for Disease Control Director Thomas R. Frieden requesting detailed answers to questions regarding their respective agencies' role and actions relating to travel notifications put forth to protect Americans from the Zika virus.
- On August 3, 2016, I led a letter to Administrator Gina McCarthy of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), requesting the EPA consider administrative solutions to recent issues concerning the Renewable Fuel Standard program's point of obligation, which is currently placed on refiners and importers.
- On August 3, 2016, I led a letter to Comptroller General Gene L. Dodaro, of the U.S. Government Accountability Office, supporting the nomination of Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky to the Board of Governors of Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.
- On September 22, 2016, I led a letter, signed by 20 Members of Congress, to Andy Slavitt, Acting Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), with concerns regarding CMS' Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment System rule severely decreasing access for Medicare beneficiaries to critical preventative bone density tests.

## Letters Led As The Chairman of The Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee

- On June 1, 2016, I joined Energy & Commerce Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) and Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) in leading a letter to Federal Communications Commission Chairman Tom Wheeler, requesting they create a more consistent privacy experience for consumers mirroring the Federal Trade Commission's enforcement-based regime.
- On July 8, 2016, I led a letter, signed by 10 Members of Congress to Edith Ramirez, Chairwoman of the Federal Trade Commission requesting answers to 7 questions regarding possible new guidelines for resort fees and drip pricing set by the Federal Trade Commission in 2012.
- On July 11, 2016 I joined Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI), Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) and Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chairman Tim Murphy (R-PA) in a letter to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Administrator Dr. Mark R. Rosekind, requesting the public release of the draft documents supporting the Vehicle-to-Vehicle Public Key Infrastructure initiative proposed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
- On August 29, 2016, I joined Energy & Commerce Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) and Energy and Power Subcommittee Chairman Ed Whitfield (R-KY) to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Administrator Dr. Mark R. Rosekind urging the agencies to provide a full 60-day extension for comment on the Draft Technical Assessment Report (DTAR), allowing the public to comment until November 26, 2016.
- On September 12, 2016, I joined Energy & Commerce Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI), Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) and Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee Chairman Tim Murphy (R-PA) to request that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration develop a plan of action for addressing the risk posed by OBD-II ports in vehicles.
- On September 27, 2016, I led a letter to Chairwoman Edith Ramirez, of the Federal Trade Commission, requesting further details regarding the impact on New Hampshire consumers caused by the expansion of the New Hampshire Motor Vehicle Dealer Act to apply to "yard and garden" and other non-road equipment.



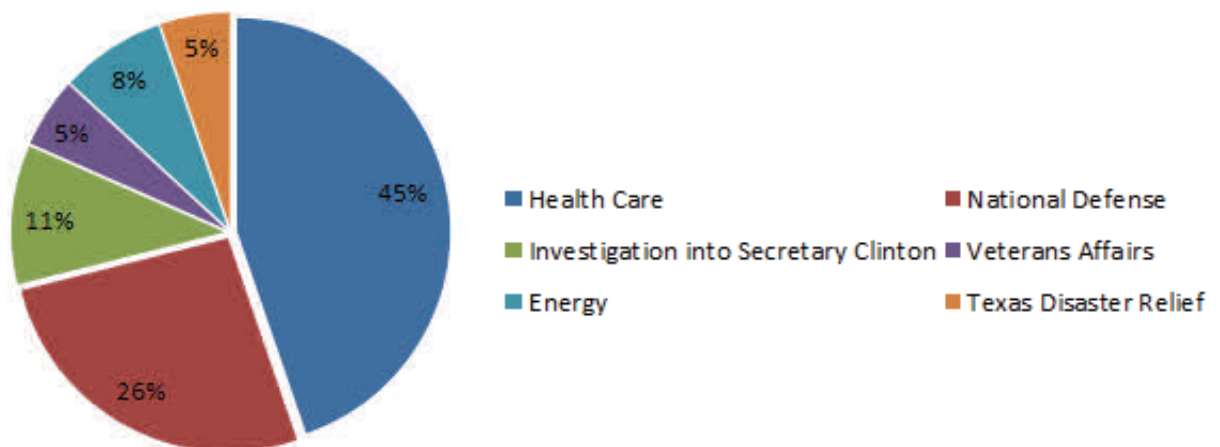
## Letters That I Cosigned in 2016

- In 2016, I signed **17** letters about reforming our health care system to make it more affordable and accessible.
  - **9** of these letters were on issues pertaining to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries.
    - On October 14, I signed a letter led by Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ), joined by 76 Members of Congress, to Acting Administrator Andy Slavitt of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, in support of a code to provide the reimbursement of an assessment and care planning session for patients with cognitive impairment, included in the CY 2017 Physician Fee Schedule.
  - I signed **3** letters requesting additional funding and response to combat the Zika Virus.
    - On August 5, I signed a letter led by Senator John Cornyn (R-TX), joined by 27 Members of Congress, to President Obama with concerns and questions as to why the Administration has failed to allocate nearly \$600 million available funding to Zika response efforts.
  - **2** of these letters requested information on the pitfalls of the Affordable Care Act.
    - On April 29, I signed a letter led by Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) joined by 34 Members of Congress to Acting Administrator Andy Slavitt at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requesting that CMS provide answers to questions on the standardized requirements for health plans under ACA.
  - **2** of these letters sought to hold the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) accountable.
    - On March 29, I signed a letter led by Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI), joined by 5 Members of Congress, to Commissioner Califf at the Food and Drug Administration requesting answers to questions relating to an investigation into the contamination of Chinese crude heparin.
- In 2016, I signed onto **9** letters pertaining to strengthening our national security and the defense of our country.
  - On January 8, I signed a letter led by Congressman Ryan Zinke (R-MT), joined by 37 Members of Congress, to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, urging him to bring forward H.R. 4038, the American Security Against Foreign Enemies Act of 2015, in the United States Senate.
  - **3** of these letters addressed the refugee resettlement process.
    - On June 22, I signed a letter led by Congressman Michael McCaul (R-TX), Governor Greg Abbott, and Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, joined by 22 Members of Congress, to President Barack Obama requesting that the Administration work with the State of Texas to reform the refugee resettlement policies and procedures in the wake of the deadliest terror attack on U.S. soil since 9/11, as well as the growing threat of radical-Islamic Terrorism.
- In 2016, I signed **4** letters regarding oversight of the Environmental Protection Agency.
  - On June 23, I signed a letter led by Congressman John Ratcliffe (R-TX), joined by 111 Members of Congress, to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, regarding the Supreme Court's orders granting applications from states and stakeholders to stay the "Clean Power Plan" and clarification of McCarthy's statement in a congressional hearing.

## Letters That I Cosigned in 2016

- In 2016, I signed **2** letters in response to the mishandling of the investigation into Secretary Clinton's use of a private email server.
  - On July 11, I signed a letter led by Congressman Matt Salmon (R-AZ), joined by 43 Members of Congress, to Attorney General Loretta Lynch, requesting the appointment of a special prosecutor to formally investigate the matter of Secretary Clinton's use of a private e-mail server.
- In 2016, I signed **2** letters requesting additional funding and disaster declaration for the state when catastrophic weather hit Texas.
  - On November 9, I signed a letter led by Congressman John Culberson (R-TX), and joined by 35 Member of Congress, to Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Majority Whip Steve Scalise requesting supplemental funding for Texas in the wake of several severe weather events.
- In 2016, I signed **2** letters about the state of veterans affairs in our country.
  - On February 12, I signed a letter led by Congressman Andy Harris (R-MD), and joined by 12 Members of Congress, to Secretary McDonald at the Department of Veterans Affairs requesting that the Department preserve the current policy in Anesthesia Service Handbook, and withdraw the proposal in the Veterans Health Administration Nursing Handbook to eliminate the requirement for physician involvement in anesthesia.
- In 2016, I signed **2** letters sent to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on the issue of transparency.
  - On February 12, I signed a letter led by Congressman Ryan Zinke (R-MT) and joined by 15 Members of Congress to Director Kornze at the BLM requesting that the BLM be more transparent in their decision making process and expressing concern for BLM's lack of local involvement in land management decisions.
- In 2016, I also joined letters addressing gun control, disapproval of Planned Parenthood funding, President Obama's gender bathroom directive, delaying confirmation of Supreme Court Justices until after the Presidential election, Epi Pen costs and ensuring a fair election.

### Breakdown of Cosigned Letters by Issue Area



## Letters Cosigned as a Member of the Energy & Commerce Committee

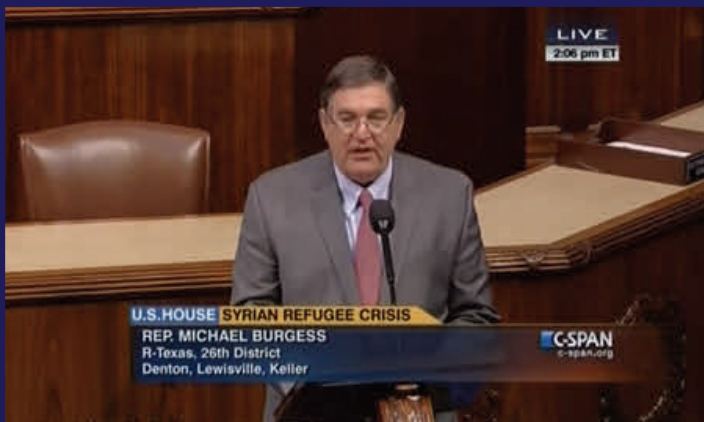
- On January 13, 2016, I signed a letter led by Chairman Joseph Pitts (R-PA) of the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, and joined by 12 Members of Congress, to Director Victoria Wachino at the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, requesting a response to questions for the record submitted on July 8, 2015, by members on the Subcommittee on Health following her testimony at the hearing entitled, "Medicaid at 50: Strengthening and Sustaining the Program." The original letter requested a response by August 10, 2015, but given that this deadline was missed by six months, the Subcommittee submitted a second request.
- On February 2, 2016, I signed a letter led by Congresswoman Susan Brooks (R-IN), and joined by 70 Members of Congress, to Acting Commissioner Ostroff at the Food and Drug Administration, encouraging FDA to exercise their authority to add Zika virus to the Priority Review Voucher Program for Neglected Tropical Diseases.
- On February 11, 2016, I signed a letter led by Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and joined by 12 Members of Congress, to Secretary Burwell at the Department of Health and Human Services, requesting that the Department provide documents and information on the Office of Refugee Resettlement's relating to unaccompanied alien children in their custody.
- On March 29, 2016, I signed a letter led by Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI), and joined by 5 Members of Congress, to Commissioner Califf at the Food and Drug Administration, requesting answers to questions relating to an investigation into the contamination of Chinese crude heparin.
- On April 11, 2016, I signed a letter led by Chairman Upton (R-MI), and joined by 3 Members of Congress, to Administrator McCarthy of the Environmental Protection Agency and Administrator Rosekind of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, requesting answers to questions on the Draft Technical Assessment Report.
- On April 29, 2016, I signed a letter led by Chairman Upton (R-MI), and joined by 34 Members of Congress to Acting Administrator Andy Slavitt at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, requesting that CMS provide answers to questions on the standardized requirements for health plans under ACA.
- On September 12, 2016, I signed a letter led by Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and joined by 15 Members of Congress, to Inspector General Daniel Levinson of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, requesting a review of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid's oversight and answers to 7 questions after recent reports revealed that CMS allowed EpiPen to be misclassified.



# Press and Communications

## Snapshot of Press and Communications

- 628 newspaper articles or blogs mentions
- 59 press releases issued
- 52 e-newsletters sent
- 85 YouTube videos posted
- 48 weekly video addresses published
- 76 radio interviews
  - 65 appearances on local stations
  - 11 appearances on nationally syndicated shows
- 8 Op-Eds placed in local & national outlets
- 52 television interviews
  - 24 on local stations
  - 11 on MSNBC
  - 7 on CNN
  - 5 on Fox News
  - 3 on Fox Business
  - 2 on NBC
- 76% increase in Twitter followers
- 85% increase in Facebook engagement





## Press Releases

In 2016, I sent out **59** press releases. Below are a few examples:

- [Burgess Statement on Passage of Legislation to Dismantle ObamaCare](#) January 6, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Vote to Override President's ObamaCare Veto](#) February 2, 2016
- [Rep. Burgess Joins Rep. Smith on Border Security Tour](#) February 5, 2016
- [Burgess Introduces Bill to Promote American Free Market Innovation](#) February 11, 2016
- [Burgess Statement in Response to President's Plan to Close Guantanamo Bay](#) February 23, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Bureau of Land Management Announcement To Delay Sale of Lake Lewisville Parcel](#) March 4, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Terror Attacks in Brussels](#) March 22, 2016
- [Burgess Joins Rep. Ratcliffe & Committee on Homeland Security to Discuss Cybersecurity](#) April 7, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on House Passage of Legislation to Fight Opioid Epidemic](#) May 13, 2016
- [Burgess Pentagon Amendment to NDAA Passes House](#) May 18, 2016
- [Reps. Burgess & Matsui Introduce Bipartisan ECHO Act](#) June 7, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Orlando Terrorist Attack](#) June 13, 2016
- [Burgess and Green Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Increase Cost Transparency for Patients](#) June 21, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Supreme Court Ruling to Strike Texas Abortion Law](#) June 27, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on the Ambush of Dallas Police Officers](#) July 8, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Need for Senate Passage of Zika Funding](#) August 4, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Passage of Bill to Prevent Transfer of Gitmo Detainees](#) September 15, 2016
- [Kirk & Burgess Introduce Bipartisan, Bicameral Bill to Improve Trauma Care with Military-Civilian Partnerships](#) September 28, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on DEA Withdrawal of Kratom Ban](#) October 13, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Release of MACRA Final Rule](#) October 14, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on the ObamaCare Premium Hikes](#) October 26, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on House Approval of Maternity Care Access Bill](#) November 14, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on Nomination of Chairman Price](#) November 29, 2016
- [Burgess Statement on House Passage of the 21st Century Cures Act](#) November 30, 2016



## Weekly Video Addresses

- [2015 Year-End Report](#) January 8, 2016
- [American SAFE Act](#) January 22, 2016
- [Obama's Failed Iran Agreement](#) February 5, 2016
- [Zika Virus Threat](#) February 12, 2016
- [U.S. Border Security](#) February 19, 2016
- [Remembering Justice Scalia](#) February 26, 2016
- [Texas Independence Day](#) March 2, 2016
- ["Disruptive Technologies"](#) March 11, 2016
- [In Defense of the Constitution](#) March 18, 2016
- [Brussels Terror Attacks](#) March 24, 2016
- [Cuba](#) April 1, 2016
- [In Defense of a Flat Tax](#) April 15, 2016
- [One Year of SGR Repeal](#) April 21, 2016
- [Emergency Preparedness](#) April 29, 2016
- [Vetting Syrian Refugees](#) May 5, 2016
- [National Police Week](#) May 13, 2016
- [Securing our Nation's Defense](#) May 19, 2016
- [Remembering the Fallen](#) May 27, 2016
- [Innovating for the 21st Century](#) June 3, 2016
- [The Threat of Zika Virus at the Olympics](#) June 10, 2016
- [Combating Terrorism in the U.S.](#) June 17, 2016
- [Protecting Americans against Zika Virus](#) June 24, 2016
- [Strengthening our Trauma Care System](#) July 1, 2016
- [Compromising the Integrity of the Justice System](#) July 8, 2016
- [The Tragedy in Dallas](#) July 15, 2016
- [One Year Anniversary of Iran Nuclear Agreement](#) July 22, 2016



## Weekly Video Addresses

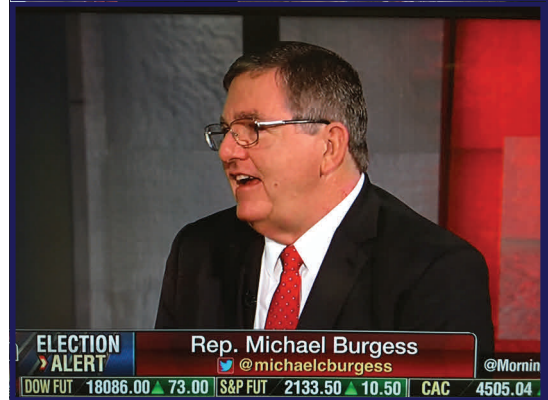
- [TX-26 Town Halls Recap](#) July 29, 2016
- [Summer Travel Safety](#) August 12, 2016
- [Ransom Payment to Iran](#) August 19, 2016
- [Continued Threat of Zika Virus](#) August 26, 2016
- [Labor Day](#) September 2, 2016
- [In Remembrance of September 11](#) September 9, 2016
- [Unfulfilled Promises of ObamaCare](#) September 16, 2016
- [President Obama's Internet Giveaway](#) September 23, 2016
- [Shortcomings of the CR](#) September 30, 2016
- [President Obama's "Crazy System"](#) October 7, 2016
- [9/11 Veto Override](#) October 14, 2016
- [The Ghost of Hillary's Deleted Emails](#) October 21, 2016
- [ObamaCare Open Enrollment](#) October 27, 2016
- [FBI Investigation into Clinton Emails](#) November 3, 2016
- [Honoring our Veterans](#) November 11, 2016
- [Lame Duck Session](#) November 18, 2016
- [Giving Thanks](#) November 22, 2016
- [Delivering the Promise of Cures](#) December 2, 2016
- [Supporting our National Defense](#) December 9, 2016
- [President Elect's Cabinet Nominations](#) December 16, 2016
- [Christmas](#) December 23, 2016
- [A Year in Review](#) December 29, 2016



# Television Interviews

Here are a sampling of the **52** television interviews that I gave this year:

- [MSNBC's All In with Chris Hayes: Gun Control](#) January 6, 2016
- [FOX 4 Good Day: Zika Virus](#) February 11, 2016
- [FOX Business' Varney & Co: FBI & Apple Encryption](#) February 29, 2016
- [ABC 8's Inside Texas Politics: Cuba](#) March 30, 2016
- [FOX 4: Lake Lewisville Dam Repairs](#) April 6, 2016
- [NBC 5's Lone Star Politics: Lake Lewisville & Zika Virus](#) April 6, 2016
- [FOX Business' Varney & Co: Presidential Election](#) May 9, 2016
- [MSNBC's All In with Chris Hayes: Presidential Election](#) May 12, 2016
- [FOX 4 Good Day: Border Crisis](#) August 3, 2016
- [CNN's The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer: Immigration Policy](#) August 31, 2016
- [FOX's FOX & Friends: Emergency Medical Preparedness](#) September 29, 2016
- [FOX News Special Report with Bret Baier: Future of Health Policy](#) September 30, 2016
- [NBC 5: Emergency Medical Preparedness](#) September 30, 2016
- [FOX Business' Mornings with Maria: ACA](#) October 18, 2016
- [FOX's FOX & Friends: Unaffordable ACA](#) October 18, 2016
- [FOX's FOX & Friends: GOP Plan to Replace ACA](#) November 14, 2016
- [CNN New Day: ACA Repeal and Replace](#) December 1, 2016
- [MSNBC's All In with Chris Hayes: President-Elect Trump's Plan to Leave Business](#) December 1, 2016



## Meetings and Events

Below is some footage from events held this year.

- [Emergency Preparedness Summit](#) April 23, 2016
- [The Colony Town Hall](#) July 25, 2016
- [Keller Town Hall](#) July 26, 2016
- [Lewisville Town Hall](#) July 27, 2016
- [21st Century Cures Press Conference](#) December 8, 2016



## Awards Received



I am honored to have been awarded credentials from organizations and groups for the common-sense and pro-growth work I do on behalf of North Texas. A few of the awards I received this year come from the following groups and associations: The American Conservative Union, Family Research Council Action, American College of Physicians, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists, National Retail Federation, and American Society of Clinical Oncology.

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Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D.

2016

# YEAR-END REPORT

Working for North Texas



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**Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D.**