Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address February 15, 2013 "The State of Our Union"

Hello this is your Congressman Michael Burgess. On Tuesday, President Obama delivered his ninth address to Congress and the American people. This was the president's opportunity to articulate his plan for a responsible savings proposal. I wanted to hear how he plans to reduce the debt. I wanted to hear how he plans to expand opportunities for all Americans. I wanted to hear that without any taxes being raised.

What we got was the same rhetoric we've heard before – more spending, higher taxes, and no planned savings. His remarks lasted 59 minutes and during that time the national debt increased by over \$123 million. The president's speech tells where he's focused. He only mentioned "debt" twice, "spending" three times, "budget" four times, "sequester" only once, and "unemployment" was not mentioned at all.

Mr. President, millions are still out of work, and the last four years have not produced the opportunities to solve the unemployment crisis. America is the land of opportunity, and we need to ensure that our small businesses are provided the environment to flourish and to put people to work. The red tape and road blocks that have been put in place under this administration have really only hindered job creation.

While the president claims to want a balanced approach in dealing with the debt and deficit, his policies have proved to be the opposite. President Obama and Senate Democrats insisted on a tax increase at the beginning of the year - I voted against this measure, but it did enough support to pass. The time has come for the president to present a responsible plan that will control spending and not raise taxes on anyone else.

House conservatives have and will continue to put forth legislation that will reduce spending, and plans that will help repair our debt and deficit. Ordinary Americans are making adjustments and sacrifices every single day, Washington must do the same.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For more information on legislative issues before the United States Congress please visit my website, burgess.house.gov. May God bless you and your family - and as always, may God bless Texas.