

**Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D.**  
**E&C Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations**  
**Measles Hearing**  
**February 27, 2019**

Thank you, Mr. Walden. This is an incredibly important hearing to hold as we are seeing measles outbreaks in different areas throughout the country. While the largest outbreaks have been in Oregon and Washington State, as of February 14<sup>th</sup> there are eight total confirmed cases in Texas in 2019, including one in my district in Denton. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, reported measles incidence decreased 87 percent from 2000 to 2016, and the annual estimated measles deaths decreased 84 percent. What these statistics show us is that the vaccination program was safe and effective.

It is frustrating to see a measles resurgence nearly 20 years after measles was declared eliminated from the United States. I look forward to hearing from Dr. Fauci and Dr. Messonnier about how NIH and CDC have worked and will continue to work to protect our nation's public health and prevent further spread of this terrible disease.