



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *109<sup>th</sup>* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

---

---

## *House of Representatives*

**The Honorable Michael C. Burgess (TX-26)**

*Extension of Remarks*

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

### **2006 National Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month**

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that the 2006 National Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month will be observed this May.

There are currently 44 million Americans, age 50 or older, who have osteoporosis. In addition, an estimated 1.5 million fractures are attributed to this disease every year. Although this disease has commonly been associated with women, it is prevalent in men as well. Nearly two million men currently live with osteoporosis, millions of others are at risk, and one in eight men older than 50 years will have an osteoporotic fracture.

Furthermore, the risk for osteoporosis does increase with age. However, it is important to adopt a good diet with calcium and vitamin D during childhood and adolescence to prevent a person from being diagnosed with low bone mass later on.

As we observe the National Osteoporosis Awareness Month, I would like to urge providers and individuals to discuss osteoporosis and carry out bone mineral density diagnostic tests when necessary.

In addition, I would like to commend the National Osteoporosis Foundation for bringing awareness to this debilitating disease, providing educational material on this issue, and supporting a search for a cure since 1984. They have entitled this year's campaign "Osteoporosis...it matters" and will be hosting events throughout the nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to promote the National Osteoporosis Awareness Month and honor the National Osteoporosis Foundation staff for all of their hard work.