

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 208

To require that any proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget establish procedures to ensure enforcement before the amendment is submitted to the States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 11 (legislative day, JANUARY 10), 1995

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself and Mr. EXON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred jointly pursuant to the order of August 4, 1977, to the Committees on the Budget and Governmental Affairs, with instructions that if one committee reports, the other committee have thirty days to report or be discharged

A BILL

To require that any proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced budget establish procedures to ensure enforcement before the amendment is submitted to the States.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Right to Know Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PROPOSAL OF AMENDMENT.**

6 No article proposing a balanced budget amendment
7 to the Constitution shall be submitted to the States for

1 ratification in the 104th Congress until the adoption of
2 a concurrent resolution containing the matter described in
3 section 2 of this Act.

4 **SEC. 3. CONTENT OF REQUIRED CONCURRENT RESOLU-**
5 **TION.**

6 (a) CONTENTS.—The concurrent resolution referred
7 to in section 1 shall set forth a budget plan to achieve
8 a balanced budget (that complies with the article of
9 amendment proposed by that section) not later than the
10 first fiscal year required by the article of amendment as
11 follows:

12 (1) a budget for each fiscal year beginning with
13 fiscal year 1996 and ending with that first fiscal
14 year (required by the article of amendment) contain-
15 ing—

16 (A) aggregate levels of new budget author-
17 ity, outlays, revenues, and the deficit or sur-
18 plus;

19 (B) totals of new budget authority and
20 outlays for each major functional category;

21 (C) new budget authority and outlays, on
22 an account-by-account basis, for each account
23 with actual outlays or offsetting receipts of at
24 least \$100,000,000 in fiscal year 1994; and

1 (D) an allocation of Federal revenues
2 among the major sources of such revenues;

3 (2) a detailed list and description of changes in
4 Federal law (including laws authorizing appropria-
5 tions or direct spending and tax laws) required to
6 carry out the plan and the effective date of each
7 such change; and

8 (3) reconciliation directives to the appropriate
9 committees of the House of Representatives and
10 Senate instructing them to submit legislative
11 changes to the Committee on the Budget of the
12 House or Senate, as the case may be, to implement
13 the plan set forth in the concurrent resolution.

14 (b) RECONCILIATION.—The directives required by
15 subsection (a)(3) shall be deemed to be directives within
16 the meaning of section 310(a) of the Congressional Budg-
17 et Act of 1974. Upon receiving all legislative submissions
18 from committees under subsection (a)(3), each Committee
19 on the Budget shall combine all such submissions (without
20 substantive revision) into an omnibus reconciliation bill
21 and report that bill to its House. The procedures set forth
22 in section 310 shall govern the consideration of that rec-
23 onciliation bill in the House of Representatives and the
24 Senate.

1 (c) CBO SCORING.—The budget plan described in
2 subsection (a) shall be based upon Congressional Budget
3 Office economic and technical assumptions and estimates
4 of the spending and revenue effects of the legislative
5 changes described in subsection (a)(2).

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