

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 1

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for a balanced budget for the United States Government and for greater accountability in the enactment of tax legislation.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER (for himself, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. CASTLE, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. BASS, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARR of Georgia, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BOYD, Mr. BRYANT, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EHR- LICH, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. GALLEGLY, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. GOSS, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. HORN, Mr. KASICH, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LEACH, Mr. LEWIS of Ken- tucky, Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MINGE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. NEY, Mr. PITTS, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. RILEY, Mr. ROGAN, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. SALMON, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. STUMP, Mr. TANNER, Mr. TAY- LOR of North Carolina, Mr. THUNE, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, and Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution to provide for a balanced budget for the United States Government

and for greater accountability in the enactment of tax legislation.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled*
3 *(two thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the fol-
4 lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-
5 stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all
6 intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when
7 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several
8 States within seven years after the date of its submission
9 for ratification:

10 “ARTICLE —

11 “SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall
12 not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless three-
13 fifths of the whole number of each House of Congress shall
14 provide by law for a specific excess of outlays over receipts
15 by a rollcall vote.

16 “SECTION 2. The limit on the debt of the United
17 States held by the public shall not be increased, unless
18 three-fifths of the whole number of each House shall pro-
19 vide by law for such an increase by a rollcall vote.

20 “SECTION 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President
21 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the
22 United States Government for that fiscal year, in which
23 total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

1 “SECTION 4. No bill to increase revenue shall become
2 law unless approved by a majority of the whole number
3 of each House by a rollcall vote.

4 “SECTION 5. The Congress may waive the provisions
5 of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration
6 of war is in effect. The provisions of this article may be
7 waived for any fiscal year in which the United States is
8 engaged in military conflict which causes an imminent and
9 serious military threat to national security and is so de-
10 clared by a joint resolution, adopted by a majority of the
11 whole number of each House, which becomes law.

12 “SECTION 6. The Congress shall enforce and imple-
13 ment this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely
14 on estimates of outlays and receipts.

15 “SECTION 7. Total receipts shall include all receipts
16 of the United States Government except those derived
17 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of
18 the United States Government except for those for repay-
19 ment of debt principal.

20 “SECTION 8. This article shall take effect beginning
21 with fiscal year 2002 or with the second fiscal year begin-
22 ning after its ratification, whichever is later.”.

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