111TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 35

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to a balanced budget.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

July 21, 2010

Mr. Hatch introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to a balanced budget.

- 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 7 years after the date of its submission by
- 9 the Congress:

1	"ARTICLE —
2	"Section 1. Congress shall adopt for each year a
3	budget which shall set forth the total receipts and outlays
4	of the United States. No budget in which total outlays
5	exceed total receipts shall be adopted unless three-fifths
6	of each House of Congress duly sworn and elected approve
7	such budget by a rollcall vote directed solely to that sub-
8	ject. Congress shall not pass and the President shall not
9	sign any bill which would cause the total outlays for any
10	year to exceed the total expenditures in the budget for
11	such year.
12	"Section 2. The receipts in any year shall not be
13	retained for use of the Treasury in an amount which ex-
14	ceeds as a proportion of the national income, that retained
15	for the prior year, unless a bill directed solely at approving
16	a specific increase in such proportion has been passed by
17	a majority of each House duly sworn and elected and such
18	bill has become law.
19	"Section 3. Congress may waive the provisions of
20	sections 1 and 2 with respect to any single year in which
21	a declaration of war is in effect.
22	"Section 4. An increase in Federal taxes may not
23	be adopted unless two-thirds of each House of Congress
24	duly sworn and elected approve such increase by a rollcall
25	vote directed solely to that subject.

- 1 "Section 5. If in any fiscal year the percentage of
- 2 growth of Gross Domestic Product is negative, discre-
- 3 tionary spending, excluding spending for defense and
- 4 homeland security, in the next fiscal year shall not exceed
- 5 the level of such spending for the preceding fiscal year
- 6 reduced by that percentage of negative growth.
- 7 "Section 6. Congress shall have the power to en-
- 8 force this article by appropriate legislation.
- 9 "Section 7. This article shall take effect on the first
- 10 day of January of the second calendar year beginning
- 11 after the date of ratification of this article.".

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