

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 68

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2019

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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:*

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. Total expenditures for any fiscal year
3 shall not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year. Such
4 total expenditures do not include those for repayment of
5 debt principal and such total receipts may not include
6 those derived from borrowing.

7 “SECTION 2. For a national emergency, two-thirds of
8 each House of Congress may for limited times authorize
9 expenditures exceeding those pursuant to rules established
10 under section 1. Debts incurred from such expenditures
11 shall be paid as soon as practicable.

12 “SECTION 3. Before each fiscal year, the President
13 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for such
14 fiscal year for the Government in which total expenditures
15 do not exceed total receipts. If the President fails to per-
16 form the duty imposed by this section, any executive ac-
17 tions may be unilaterally overturned by a simple majority
18 vote of each House of Congress until the date on which
19 the President submits the proposed budget to Congress.

20 “SECTION 4. The limit on the debt of the United
21 States held by the public shall not be increased unless two-
22 thirds of each House of Congress provides by law for such
23 an increase by a roll-call vote.

24 “SECTION 5. For purposes of section 2, a national
25 emergency occurs whenever a declaration of war is in ef-

1 fect or whenever Congress adopts a concurrent resolution
2 declaring a national emergency.

3 “SECTION 6. Congress shall have power to enforce
4 this article by appropriate legislation.

5 “SECTION 7. This article shall take effect beginning
6 with the tenth fiscal year after its ratification.”.

