

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 1

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2011

Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. AKIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DENT, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. HALL, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. HURT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. MACK, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCHENRY, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. POSEY, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. RIGELL, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. FOXX, Mr. RIBBLE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. GARRETT, and Mr. CHABOT) introduced 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 (two-*
 3 *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. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall
 17 not exceed one-fifth of economic output of the United
 18 States, unless two-thirds of each House of Congress shall
 19 provide for a specific increase of outlays above this
 20 amount.

21 “SECTION 3. The limit on the debt of the United
 22 States held by the public shall not be increased unless
 23 three-fifths of the whole number of each House shall pro-
 24 vide by law for such an increase by a rollcall vote.

1 “SECTION 4. Prior to each fiscal year, the President
2 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the
3 United States Government for that fiscal year in which
4 total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

5 “SECTION 5. A bill to increase revenue shall not be-
6 come law unless three-fifths of the whole number of each
7 House shall provide by law for such an increase by a roll-
8 call vote.

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

17 “SECTION 7. The Congress shall enforce and imple-
18 ment this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely
19 on estimates of outlays and receipts.

20 “SECTION 8. Total receipts shall include all receipts
21 of the United States Government except those derived
22 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of
23 the United States Government except for those for repay-
24 ment of debt principal.

1 “SECTION 9. This article shall take effect beginning
2 with the later of the second fiscal year beginning after its
3 ratification or the first fiscal year beginning after Decem-
4 ber 31, 2016.”.

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