

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. J. RES. 2

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2011

Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. AKIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BOREN, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BROWN of Georgia, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CARTER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. COBLE, Mr. COLE, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky, Mr. DENT, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FLORES, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. HALL, Mr. HARPER, Mr. HELLER, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. HURT, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JONES, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. MACK, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MARINO, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. McHENRY, Mr. McKEON, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. POSEY, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. REED, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. RIGELL, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROSKAM, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. SCHILLING, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. TURNER, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. WOLF, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. MEEHAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PITTS,

Mr. POMPEO, Mr. SCHOCK, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. BARTLETT, and Mr. CHABOT) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## 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. 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.

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

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

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

19       “SECTION 7. Total receipts shall include all receipts  
20 of the United States Government except those derived  
21 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of  
22 the United States Government except for those for repay-  
23 ment of debt principal.

24       “SECTION 8. This article shall take effect beginning  
25 with the later of the second fiscal year beginning after its

1 ratification or the first fiscal year beginning after Decem-  
2 ber 31, 2016.”.

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