

Calendar No. 12

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 1

[Report No. 105–3]

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 21, 1997

Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. THURMOND, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. ROTH, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. KOHL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. KYL, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ROBB, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. HELMS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. MACK, Mr. GRAMM, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BROWNBACK, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BOND, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. COATS, Mr. FAIRCLOTH, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GORTON, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KEMPTHORNE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire, and Mr. THOMAS) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

FEBRUARY 3, 1997

Reported under the authority of January 30, 1997 by Mr. Hatch, without
amendment

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United
States to require 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, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes
6 as part of the Constitution when ratified by the legisla-
7 tures of three-fourths of the several States within seven
8 years after the date of its submission to the States for
9 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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