

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. J. RES. 31

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 15, 2006

Mr. ALLEN 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 require a balancing of the budget.

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 by the Congress:

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. The budget deficit of the United States
3 for the fiscal year in which this article is ratified shall
4 be reduced in the succeeding fiscal years such that the
5 budget deficit, if any, in the succeeding fiscal years may
6 not exceed the indicated amount of the budget deficit for
7 the fiscal year in which this article is ratified, as follows:

8 “(1) For the first fiscal year beginning after
9 the ratification of this article, 80 percent.

10 “(2) For the second fiscal year beginning after
11 the ratification of this article, 60 percent.

12 “(3) For the third fiscal year beginning after
13 the ratification of this article, 40 percent.

14 “(4) For the fourth fiscal year beginning after
15 the ratification of this article, 20 percent.

16 “SECTION 2. After the fourth fiscal year beginning
17 after ratification of this article, expenditures by the
18 United States may not exceed receipts for any given fiscal
19 year unless such excess expenditures are authorized by a
20 law approved by three-fifths of each House of the Con-
21 gress.

22 “SECTION 3. Congress may waive the provisions of
23 this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration of
24 war is in effect. Any deficit that occurs as a result of such
25 war shall be reduced within 5 fiscal years following the

1 war according to the procedures set forth in section 1 of
2 this article.

3 “SECTION 4. Congress shall have the power to en-
4 force this article by appropriate legislation.”.

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