

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 2

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2013

Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. COBLE, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. JONES, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. POSEY, Mr. HURT, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. HARPER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. WALDEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. MARINO, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. WOLF, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. LABRADOR, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. PETRI, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. OLSON, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BONNER, Mr. YODER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. DENT, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. BROUN of Georgia) 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*
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:

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. Any
12 such waiver must identify and be limited to the specific
13 excess or increase for that fiscal year made necessary by
14 the identified military conflict.

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

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

23 “SECTION 8. This article shall take effect beginning
24 with the fifth fiscal year beginning after its ratification.”.

