

A balanced budget amendment to the Constitution can be the solution to this perpetual problem. A balanced budget amendment will put us on a path to paying off our national debt, which is currently more than \$7 trillion. This amendment will help ensure that taxpayers' money will no longer be wasted on interest payments.

Opponents of a balanced budget amendment treat it as if it is something extraordinary. They are right, a balanced Federal budget would be extraordinary. And I believe that adopting an amendment that would require the Federal Government to do what every American already has to do—balance their checkbook—is exactly what this country needs to prove that Washington is serious about accomplishing this extraordinary feat. A balanced budget amendment is simply a promise to the American people that the Government will spend their hard-earned tax dollars responsibly. I think that we owe our constituents and future generations of Americans that much.

We do not need any more budget deals or false promises from Washington to reduce the deficit. What we need is a hammer to force Congress and the President to agree on a balanced budget, not just this year, but forever. A constitutional amendment to balance the Federal budget is the only hammer forceful enough to make that happen.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting this important legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S.J. RES. 29

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to be valid only if ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within 7 years of the date of final passage of this joint resolution:

“ARTICLE—

“SECTION 1. The total amount of money expended by the United States in any fiscal year shall not exceed the total amount of revenue received by the United States during such fiscal year, except revenue received from the issuance of bonds, notes, or other obligations of the United States.

“SECTION 2. The total amount of money expended by the United States in any fiscal year shall not exceed the amount equal to 20 per centum of the gross national product of the United States during the last calendar year ending before the beginning of such fiscal year.

“SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply during any fiscal year during any part of which the United States is at war as declared by the Congress under section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

“SECTION 4. Sections 1 and 2 of this Article may be suspended by a concurrent resolution approved by a three-fifths vote of the Members of each House of the Congress. Any sus-

pension of sections 1 and 2 of this Article under this section shall be effective only during the fiscal year during which such suspension is approved.

“SECTION 5. This Article shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of the adoption of this Article.

“SECTION 6. The Congress shall have power to enforce this Article by appropriate legislation.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 318—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE POSTAGE STAMP SHOULD BE ISSUED IN COMMEMORATION OF DIWALI, A FESTIVAL CELEBRATED BY PEOPLE OF INDIAN ORIGIN

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. CORZINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Affairs:

Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a resolution expressing the Sense of the Senate that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Commission should issue a postage stamp honoring Diwali.

Diwali, known colloquially as the “festival of light,” is celebrated annually in Indian communities worldwide. Diwali marks the beginning of the Hindu New Year and signifies the renewal of life for all. Traditionally lasting five days, it is common practice for celebrants to light small oil lamps, called diyas, and place them around the home and pray for health, knowledge, and peace. Light represents the triumph of good over evil, and signifies optimism for the future.

Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Eid have already been recognized on United States postage stamps. It would be appropriate to add Diwali to this distinguished list. It is a holiday about community, family, and hope for the future—qualities the Senate should highlight and embrace.

S. RES. 318

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) a postage stamp should be issued by the United States Postal Service in commemoration of Diwali, a festival celebrated by people of Indian origin; and

(2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a stamp be issued.

SENATE RESOLUTION 319—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO THE DEADLY TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN THAT OCCURRED ON MARCH 11, 2004

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL,

Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TALENT, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 319

Expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to the deadly terrorist attacks against the people of Spain that occurred on March 11, 2004.

Whereas on March 11, 2004, terrorists detonated a total of 10 bombs at 6 train stations in and around Madrid, Spain during morning rush hour, killing more than 190 people and injuring more than 1,200 others;

Whereas these attacks constitute the worst acts of terrorism ever experienced in Spain;

Whereas no organization has claimed responsibility for the terrorist attacks;

Whereas the terrorist organization known as ETA, which has been responsible for the deaths of more than 800 people during its decades long campaign to establish an independent Basque State, is a prime suspect as the perpetrator of these cowardly acts of terrorism against innocent people;

Whereas officials in Spain initiated another line of investigation to identify the perpetrators of the terrorist attacks after a van was found with detonators and an Arabic-language tape of Koranic verses;

Whereas President Jose Maria Aznar has stated that “we shall not forget”, bravely declared that Spain would not change its policies because of terrorist pressure, and declared three days of national mourning;

Whereas the President of the European Parliament has stated that the terrorist attacks are “a declaration of war on democracy”, Pope John Paul II has described the attacks as “despicable”, and the United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan expressed profound shock and indignation over this “senseless killing of innocent people”; and

Whereas President George W. Bush has already called President Aznar to offer his condolences and to assure him that “the United States stands resolutely with Spain in the fight against terrorism in all its forms and against the particular threat that Spain faces from the evil of ETA terrorism”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses the outrage and shock of the people of the United States over the terrorist attacks that occurred in and around Madrid, Spain on March 11, 2004;

(2) joins with President Bush in expressing its deepest condolences and pledges to remain shoulder to shoulder with the people of Spain in the war on terrorism;

(3) expresses its strong solidarity with the people of Spain during their difficult hour, and its deep condolences to the families of the victims of these despicable terrorist attacks;

(4) calls on all nations to join with the United States in condemning the monstrous attacks on the innocent people of Spain and in attempting to identify the perpetrators of the attacks and bring them to account;

(5) expresses its readiness to consult with representatives of King Juan Carlos, President Jose Maria Aznar, the Spanish government, the Spanish Cortes, and other public authorities about joint efforts to combat terrorism more effectively;

(6) commends the United States Embassy in Madrid for its prompt offers of assistance to the Government of Spain, and for its efforts to determine the welfare and whereabouts of United States citizens who may have been affected by the terrorist attacks; and

(7) urges the executive branch to continue to provide all possible assistance to Spain in order to identify and bring to account the perpetrators of the terrorist attacks that occurred on March 11, 2004, in Madrid and of other terrorist attacks against the people of Spain.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 98—PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 98

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, March 11, or Friday, March 12, or Saturday, March 13, or Sunday, March 14, 2004, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until Monday, March 22, 2004, at 12 noon.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2783. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. SARBANES, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Ms. STABENOW) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2006 through 2009.

SA 2784. Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REID, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DOMENICI, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2785. Mr. LUGAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2786. Mr. DAYTON (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. KOHL,

Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2787. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. REED, and Mr. CORZINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2788. Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. REED, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CORZINE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2789. Mr. SARBANES (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2790. Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2791. Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. REED, Mr. DODD, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BIDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2792. Mr. DORGAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2793. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2794. Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2795. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2796. Mr. SANTORUM submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2797. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2798. Mr. HARKIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2799. Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2800. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her

to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2801. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2802. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2803. Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PRYOR, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2804. Mr. BYRD proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2805. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2806. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. BOND, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. TALENT, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2807. Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BIDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DODD, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. GRAHAM, of Florida) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2808. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2809. Mr. EDWARDS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2810. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra.

SA 2811. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 95, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2812. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2813. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2814. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2815. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2816. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2817. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. CLINTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the