

By Representatives Sanderson, K. Pruitt, Feeney, Merchant,
Byrd, Putnam, Safley, Albright, Stabins, Littlefield, Jones,
Maygarden, Bullard and Wise

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House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, requesting that a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution be submitted to the states for ratification.

WHEREAS, the annual federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and the federal public debt is now more than \$5 trillion, or \$20,000 for every man, woman, and child in America, and

WHEREAS, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues, and

WHEREAS, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is lowering the standard of living, destroying jobs, and endangering economic opportunity in the present and for the next generation, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government's unlimited ability to borrow raises questions with regard to fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound consequences for the Nation and its people, making it an appropriate subject for limitation by the Constitution of the United States, and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States vests the ultimate responsibility to approve or disapprove constitutional amendments in the people, as represented by their elected state legislatures, and

WHEREAS, opposition by a small minority has repeatedly thwarted the will of the people that a balanced budget

1 amendment to the United States Constitution be submitted to
2 the states for ratification, NOW, THEREFORE,

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4 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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6 That the Congress of the United States is hereby urged
7 to expeditiously pass, and propose to the legislatures of the
8 several states for ratification, an amendment to the
9 Constitution of the United States requiring, in the absence of
10 a national emergency, that the total of all federal
11 appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may
12 not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for
13 that fiscal year.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
15 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
16 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
17 United States House of Representatives, to each member of the
18 Florida delegation to the United States Congress, to the
19 Secretary of State, and to the presiding officers of both
20 houses of the legislatures of each state in the Union.

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