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1
2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
3 urging members of Congress to take immediate action to
4 address the current national debt and balance the
5 federal budget.
6

7 WHEREAS, the United States' national debt for the federal
8 fiscal year 2021-2022, which ended September 30, 2022, totaled
9 \$30.93 trillion, which represents an increase of \$2.5 trillion
10 in debt from the previous fiscal year, and

11 WHEREAS, the amount of debt carried by the Federal
12 Government affects the amount of interest it pays in a fiscal
13 year, and

14 WHEREAS, as of October 2022, the first month in the 2022-
15 2023 federal fiscal year, maintaining the national debt costs
16 the Federal Government \$48 billion per month or 12 percent of
17 total federal spending, and

18 WHEREAS, as inflation and interest rates increase, the
19 Federal Government encounters higher interest rates on borrowed
20 moneys, and

21 WHEREAS, as the national debt increases, Congress is forced
22 to raise the debt ceiling or risk not being able to pay Federal
23 Government expenditures, resulting in government shutdowns and
24 employee furloughs that threaten national security, and

25 WHEREAS, 41 states, including Florida, require their state
26 legislatures to pass balanced budgets that ensure fiscal
27 discipline and responsibility, and

28 WHEREAS, Congress has attempted, unsuccessfully, to
29 introduce and enact legislation requiring its members to pass a

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30 balanced budget, and

31 WHEREAS, the people of Florida recognized the wisdom of
32 fiscal discipline and enshrined in the State Constitution the
33 requirement for a balanced budget, thereby placing prudent
34 limits on government spending, and

35 WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has made fiscally
36 responsible decisions, has maintained a balanced budget, and has
37 saved residents of this state from crippling deficits, massive
38 debt burdens, and bankruptcy, and

39 WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature calls on members of
40 Congress to enact legislation requiring a balanced budget; to
41 mandate the Federal Government operate with fiscal
42 responsibility, discipline, and common sense; and to operate
43 within the revenues granted to it by the people, and

44 WHEREAS, in order to ensure the stability of government and
45 business functions at the local, regional, state, and national
46 levels, it is imperative that the Federal Government take action
47 to cut costs, reduce the tax burden on American families and
48 businesses, operate according to principles of fiscal
49 responsibility and discipline, and balance the federal budget,
50 NOW, THEREFORE,

51
52 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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54 That the Congress of the United States is urged to take
55 immediate action to begin to reduce the national debt and enact
56 legislation requiring a balanced federal budget.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State is
58 directed to dispatch copies of this memorial to the President of

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59 the United States, to the President of the United States Senate,
60 to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
61 and to each member of the Florida delegation to the Congress of
62 the United States.