

ENROLLED

HCR 703

2024 Legislature

House Concurrent Resolution

A concurrent resolution applying to the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the sole purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States which requires a balanced federal budget.

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2010, the Legislature of the State of Florida passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 10, which Resolution 10 made application to Congress to call a convention pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States to achieve and maintain a balanced federal budget and to control the ability of Congress and federal executive agencies to dictate to states requirements for the expenditure of federal funds, and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2014, the Legislature of the State of Florida passed Senate Memorial 658, which Memorial 658 made application to Congress to call a convention pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States for the sole purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced federal budget, and

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2023, the Legislature of the State of Florida passed Senate Memorial 176, finding that in order to ensure the stability of government and business functions at the local, regional, state, and national levels, it is imperative

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26 | that the Federal Government take action to cut costs, reduce the
 27 | tax burden on American families and businesses, operate
 28 | according to principles of fiscal responsibility and discipline,
 29 | and balance the federal budget, and urging Congress to take
 30 | immediate action to begin to reduce the national debt and enact
 31 | legislation requiring a balanced federal budget, and

32 | WHEREAS, Congress continues to fail to introduce and enact
 33 | legislation requiring its members to pass a balanced budget, and

34 | WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Florida intends to
 35 | conform its application to the active single subject
 36 | applications made to Congress by the States of Alabama, Alaska,
 37 | Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana,
 38 | Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota,
 39 | Nebraska, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South
 40 | Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and
 41 | Wyoming, NOW, THEREFORE,

42 |
 43 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
 44 | Florida, the Senate Concurring:

45 |
 46 | (1) That the Legislature of the State of Florida applies
 47 | to Congress, under Article V of the Constitution of the United
 48 | States, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment
 49 | to the Constitution requiring that, in the absence of a national
 50 | emergency, the total of all federal appropriations made by the

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51 Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all
52 estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with
53 any related and appropriate fiscal restraints.

54 (2) That this application is to be considered as covering
55 the same subject matter as the presently outstanding balanced
56 budget applications from other states and is to be aggregated
57 with the applications from those states for the purpose of
58 attaining the two-thirds number of states necessary to require
59 the calling of a convention, but may not be aggregated with
60 applications on any other subject calling for a constitutional
61 convention under Article V of the United States Constitution.

62 (3) That this application constitutes a continuing
63 application in accordance with Article V until the legislatures
64 of at least two-thirds of the states have made applications on
65 the same subject.

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this concurrent resolution is
67 revoked and withdrawn, nullified, and superseded to the same
68 effect as if it had never been passed, and retroactive to the
69 date of passage, if it is used for the purpose of calling a
70 convention or used in support of conducting a convention to
71 amend the Constitution of the United States with any agenda
72 other than to propose an amendment to the Constitution requiring
73 that, in the absence of a national emergency, the total of all
74 federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year
75 may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for

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76 | that fiscal year, together with any related and appropriate
77 | fiscal restraints.

78 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this application be
79 | dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
80 | President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
81 | United States House of Representatives, to each member of the
82 | Florida delegation to the United States Congress, and to the
83 | presiding officer of each house of the legislature of each
84 | state.