

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 11

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to balance the Federal budget.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2011

Mr. BROUN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mr. PITTS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. LONG, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. WEST, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. BASS of New Hampshire) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to balance the Federal budget.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-*
3 *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

1 States within seven years after the date of its submission
2 for ratification:

3 “ARTICLE —

4 “SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall
5 not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless two-
6 thirds of the whole number of each House of Congress
7 shall provide by law for a specific excess of outlays over
8 receipts by a roll call vote.

9 “SECTION 2. The limit on the debt of the United
10 States held by the public shall not be increased, unless
11 two-thirds of the whole number of each House shall pro-
12 vide by law for such an increase by a roll call vote.

13 “SECTION 3. Outlays for the total budget may not
14 exceed the previous fiscal years’ outlays plus population
15 growth and inflation, unless two-thirds of the whole num-
16 ber of each House shall provide for such increase by a
17 roll call vote.

18 “SECTION 4. Prior to each fiscal year, the President
19 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the
20 United States Government for that fiscal year in which
21 total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

22 “SECTION 5. No bill to increase revenue shall become
23 law unless approved by two-thirds of the whole number
24 of each House by a roll call vote.

1 “SECTION 6. The Congress may waive the provisions
2 of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration
3 of war is in effect, with a vote of a majority of both houses.

4 “SECTION 7. The Congress shall enforce and imple-
5 ment this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely
6 on estimates of outlays and receipts.

7 “SECTION 8. All outlays above revenues from the pre-
8 vious fiscal year must be accounted for in the outlays and
9 budgets of the following fiscal year.

10 “SECTION 9. All surplus revenues at the end of a fis-
11 cal year shall be allocated to a fund to be returned to the
12 taxpayers. The method of return to the taxpayers must
13 be determined by legislation before the end of the subse-
14 quent fiscal year.

15 “SECTION 10. Total receipts shall include all receipts
16 of the United States Government except those derived
17 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of
18 the United States Government including those for debt
19 service and other debt functions.

20 “SECTION 11. This article shall take effect beginning
21 with the second fiscal year beginning after its ratifica-
22 tion.”.

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