

House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
 urging members of Congress to take immediate action to
 address the current national debt and balance the
 federal budget.

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

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

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

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

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

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
 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,

HM 189

2023

51

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

53

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

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State is
59 directed to dispatch copies of this memorial to the President of
60 the United States, to the President of the United States Senate,
61 to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
62 and to each member of the Florida delegation to the Congress of
the United States.