

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0003

Resolution-U.S. constitution requiring a balanced budget.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Hallinan, Anderson, R.,
Buchanan, Childers, Cohee, Edmonds, Hammons,
Jaggi, Landon, Madden and Semlek and
Senator(s) Hines

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting appropriate action by
2 Congress proposing an amendment to the United States
3 Constitution requiring a balanced budget except in times of
4 war or declared national emergency.

5

6 WHEREAS, the necessity, importance and benefit of a
7 balanced budget is evident; and

8

9 WHEREAS, Congress is expected to use its full range of
10 legislative powers to reach and maintain a balanced budget;
11 and

12

13 WHEREAS, continued deficit spending demonstrates an
14 unwillingness or inability of the federal executive and

1 legislative branches to spend no more than the available
2 revenues; and

3

4 WHEREAS, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is
5 lowering the standard of living, destroying jobs, inflating
6 the currency and endangering economic opportunities now and
7 for the next generation; and

8

9 WHEREAS, the United States Constitution mandates that
10 Congress call a convention for proposing amendments upon
11 application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the
12 several states; and

13

14 WHEREAS, the requirement for maintaining a balanced budget
15 should be subject to waiver in times of declared war or
16 when two-thirds of both Houses of Congress and the
17 President declare a national emergency.

18

19 *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE*
20 *LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:*

21

22 **Section 1.** That procedures be instituted in Congress
23 to add a new Article to the Constitution of the United
24 States, and that Congress prepare and submit to the several

1 states an amendment to the United States Constitution,
2 requiring that in the absence of a declared national
3 emergency or war, the total of all expenditures for any
4 fiscal year shall not exceed the total of estimated
5 revenues, excluding any revenues derived from borrowing,
6 for that fiscal year.

7

8 **Section 2.** Should Congress fail to submit such an
9 amendment to the States prior to December 31, 2010, that
10 the legislature of Wyoming shall apply to the Congress
11 requiring it to call a constitutional convention for
12 proposing such an amendment to the United States
13 Constitution.

14

15 **Section 3.** Should Congress fail to submit such an
16 amendment to the States prior to December 31, 2010, that
17 the legislatures of each of the several states comprising
18 the United States shall apply to the Congress requiring it
19 to call a constitutional convention for proposing such an
20 amendment to the United States Constitution.

21

22 **Section 4.** Should Congress fail to submit such an
23 amendment consistent with this resolution to the States,
24 upon application from the legislatures of two-thirds of the

1 States Congress shall call a constitutional convention for
2 proposing such an amendment to the United States
3 Constitution requiring a balanced budget except in times of
4 war and declared national emergency.

5

6 **Section 5.** That the Secretary of the State of Wyoming
7 transmit copies of this Joint Resolution to the United
8 States Secretary of State, the presiding officers of both
9 Houses of the Legislature of each of the other States in
10 the Union, with the request that it be circulated among
11 leaders in the Executive and Legislative branches of the
12 several State governments; and with the further request
13 that each of the other States join in requiring Congress to
14 call a constitutional convention to initiate a proposal to
15 amend the Constitution in the form proposed in this Joint
16 Resolution.

17

18

(END)