

Senate Joint Memorial 2

Sponsored by Senator BOQUIST (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Urges Congress to call amendment convention to propose amendment to United States Constitution to require federal government to operate under balanced budget wherein federal government expenditures do not exceed federal government revenues.

JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress as-
3 sembled:

4 We, your memorialists, the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in leg-
5 islative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

6 Whereas the failure of the federal budget process has produced an enormous federal budget
7 deficit, and growing national debt presently burdens the American people and threatens to burden
8 their descendants for generations to come; and

9 Whereas the congressional practice of deficit spending and repeated raising of the ceiling on
10 maximum federal debt has had the effect of endangering the jobs, incomes, retirement security,
11 welfare and future of American citizens; and

12 Whereas federal debt diverts scarce resources from crucial programs to pay interest on the na-
13 tional debt, constricts the ability of the federal government to address long-standing national prob-
14 lems and to respond to new needs and increases pressure to raise taxes on the American people;
15 and

16 Whereas Article V of the United States Constitution provides that an amendment to the United
17 States Constitution may be proposed by Congress or, on the application of the legislatures of two-
18 thirds of the states, Congress is required to call a constitutional convention for the purpose of pro-
19 posing amendments to the United States Constitution; and

20 Whereas in either case, a proposed amendment shall become part of the United States Consti-
21 tution when ratified by three-fourths of the states; now, therefore,

22 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

23 (1) We, the members of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, pursuant to Article V of the
24 United States Constitution, hereby petition Congress to call, as soon as this petition and the similar
25 petitions of other states constitute petitions from two-thirds of the states, a convention for the pur-
26 pose of proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to require that in the absence
27 of a national emergency the total of all federal government outlays made by Congress for any fiscal
28 year not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with any
29 related and appropriate fiscal restraints.

30 (2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Secretary of the
31 Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Chief Clerk of the House of Repre-

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 sentatives, to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation and to the presiding officers of
2 the legislative chambers of each state of the United States requesting their cooperation in issuing
3 an application to compel Congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments
4 pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution.

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