Senate Joint Memorial 1

Sponsored by Senator KNOPP; Senator GIROD (Presession 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 propose for state ratification 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

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

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

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

Whereas federal debt diverts scarce resources from crucial programs to pay interest on the national debt, constricts the ability of the federal government to address long-standing national problems and to respond to new needs and increases pressure to raise taxes on the American people; and

Whereas Article V of the United States Constitution provides that an amendment to the United States Constitution may be proposed by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress and submitted to the states for state ratification; and

Whereas a proposed amendment shall become part of the United States Constitution when ratified by three-fourths of the states; now, therefore,

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

(1) We, the members of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly, pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution, hereby petition Congress to propose an amendment to the United States Constitution to require that in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal government outlays made by Congress for any fiscal year not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints, and to submit that proposed amendment to the states for their ratification.

(2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Secretary of the Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

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.

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