

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 134

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUESTING APPROPRIATE ACTION BY THE CONGRESS, EITHER
3 ACTING BY CONSENT OF TWO-THIRDS OF BOTH HOUSES OR, UPON THE APPLICA-
4 TION OF THE LEGISLATURES OF TWO-THIRDS OF THE SEVERAL STATES, CALLING
5 AN ARTICLE V CONVENTION TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES
6 CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE, WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, THAT THE TOTAL OF
7 ALL FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS MAY NOT EXCEED THE TOTAL OF ALL ESTIMATED
8 FEDERAL REVENUES IN ANY FISCAL YEAR TOGETHER WITH ANY RELATED AND APPRO-
9 PRIATE FISCAL RESTRAINTS.

10 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

11 WHEREAS, with each passing year this nation becomes more deeply in debt
12 as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed available revenues, so
13 that the total debt now exceeds seventeen trillion dollars; and

14 WHEREAS, the annual federal budget continually demonstrates an unwill-
15 ingness or inability of both the legislative and executive branches of the
16 federal government to curtail spending to conform to available revenues; and

17 WHEREAS, unified budgets do not reflect actual spending because of the
18 exclusion of special outlays that are not included in the budget nor subject
19 to the legal public debt limit; and

20 WHEREAS, knowledgeable planning, fiscal prudence and plain good sense
21 require that the budget reflect all federal spending and be in balance; and

22 WHEREAS, believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level,
23 with the inflation that results from this policy, is the greatest threat that
24 faces our nation, we firmly believe that constitutional restraint is neces-
25 sary to bring the fiscal discipline needed to restore financial responsibil-
26 ity; and

27 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States,
28 amendments to the Constitution of the United States may be proposed by the
29 Congress whenever two-thirds of both houses deem it necessary; or, on the
30 application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, the
31 Congress shall call a Constitutional Convention for proposing amendments.
32 We believe such action vital.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
34 sion of the Sixty-second Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Rep-
35 resentatives concurring therein, that pursuant to Article V of the Consti-
36 tution of the United States, the Legislature of the State of Idaho petitions
37 the Congress of the United States of America, at its session, to call a con-
38 vention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution
39 of the United States requiring that, in the absence of a national emergency,
40 the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal
41 year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fis-
42 cal year, together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application is to be considered as cov-
2 ering the balanced budget amendment language of the presently outstanding
3 balanced budget applications from other states, including, but not limited
4 to, previously adopted applications from Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Col-
5 orado, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Mississippi,
6 Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina,
7 Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas; and this application shall be aggregated with
8 those applications for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states
9 necessary to require the calling of a convention for proposing a balanced
10 budget amendment, but shall not be aggregated with any applications on any
11 other subject; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application constitutes a continuing
13 application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United
14 States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states
15 have made applications on the same subject. It supersedes all previous ap-
16 plications by this Legislature on the same subject; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is
18 hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to the Secretary of
19 State and presiding officers of both houses of the legislatures of each of
20 the other states in the union, the Speaker of the United States House of Rep-
21 resentatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of
22 the Congress of the United States representing the State of Idaho.