

IN THE SENATE

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 115

BY JUDICIARY AND RULES COMMITTEE

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND REQUESTING THAT CONGRESS EITHER
3 PROPOSE A BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED
4 STATES FOR RATIFICATION OR CALL A CONVENTION FOR PROPOSING AMENDMENTS
5 UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE PRO-
6 POSAL OF SUCH AN AMENDMENT.

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

8 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has run up a debt so massive that
9 it has endangered the United States government, the United States economy,
10 United States national defense, and all 50 states; and

11 WHEREAS, America's founding fathers vested the states with the power to
12 rein in the federal government via the authority to propose and ratify amend-
13 ments to the Constitution of the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States mandates
15 that upon the "Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several
16 States" Congress shall "call a convention for proposing amendments"; and

17 WHEREAS, historically when the states have come within one application
18 of the two-thirds of the states, which is 34 out of the 50 states, necessary
19 to call a convention to propose a specific amendment, Congress has acted to
20 propose said amendment in order to prevent a convention from being called;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan advocated the use of a "thirty-three
23 state strategy" to pressure Congress to propose a balanced budget amendment
24 for ratification by the states; and

25 WHEREAS, the Legislature deems that an amendment to the Constitution of
26 the United States that would require a balanced federal budget is necessary
27 for the good of the American people.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular
29 Session of the Sixty-seventh Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of
30 Representatives concurring therein, that the Idaho Legislature requests
31 that Congress prepare and submit to the several states for ratification an
32 amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring, in the ab-
33 sence of a national emergency, that the total of all federal outlays made by
34 the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated
35 federal revenues for that fiscal year, together with any related and appro-
36 priate fiscal restraints.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, if Congress has not submitted the above
38 described amendment to the several states for ratification by December 31,
39 2025, the Idaho Legislature applies to Congress, under the provisions of
40 Article V of the Constitution of the United States, for the calling of a con-
41 vention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to the Constitution
42 of the United States requiring that, in the absence of a national emergency,
43 the total of all federal outlays made by the Congress for any fiscal year may

1 not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year,
2 together with any related and appropriate fiscal restraints.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State is hereby directed
4 to transmit copies of this application to the President and Secretary of the
5 United States Senate, to the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of
6 Representatives, to Idaho's congressional delegation, and to the presiding
7 officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states to request
8 their cooperation.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application constitutes a continuing
10 application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United
11 States until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states
12 have made applications on the same subject, or until December 31, 2032,
13 whichever occurs earlier. It supersedes all previous applications by this
14 legislature on the same subject.