



ARKANSAS

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BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

State Capitol, Room 315

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HOUSE BILLS, SENATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE 72ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY 1979
REGULAR SESSION AND EXTENDED SESSION 1980

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HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTIONS

1 By: Representatives McCuiston, C. Moore,
2 Hendrix, Harris, Stephens, Thicksten,
3 Bynum, Stockley, S. Miller, Hampton,
4 Corbin, Landers, B. Wood, Rose,
5 Ryburn and Willems

H. J. R.

1

6 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

7 REQUESTING APPROPRIATE ACTION BY THE CONGRESS, EITHER
8 ACTING BY CONSENT OF TWO-THIRDS OF BOTH HOUSES, OR,
9 UPON THE APPLICATION OF THE LEGISLATURES OF TWO-THIRDS
10 OF THE SEVERAL STATES, CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
11 TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION TO
12 REQUIRE, WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, THAT THE TOTAL OF ALL
13 FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS MAY NOT EXCEED THE TOTAL OF ALL
14 ESTIMATED FEDERAL REVENUES IN ANY FISCAL YEAR.

15 WHEREAS, with each passing year this Nation becomes more deeply in
16 debt as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed available revenues,
17 so that the public debt now exceeds hundreds of billions of dollars; and

18 WHEREAS, the annual Federal budget continually demonstrates an
19 unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and executive branches
20 of the Federal government to curtail spending to conform to available
21 revenues; and

22 WHEREAS, unified budgets do not reflect actual spending because of
23 the exclusion of special outlays which are not included in the budget
24 nor subject to the legal public debt limit; and

25 WHEREAS, knowledgeable planning, fiscal prudence, and plain good
26 sense require that the budget reflect all Federal spending and be in
27 balance; and

28 WHEREAS, believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the Federal level,
29 with the inflation which results from this policy, is the greatest threat
30 which faces our Nation, we firmly believe that constitutional restraint
31 is necessary to bring the fiscal discipline needed to restore financial
32 responsibility; and

33 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States,
34 amendments to the Federal Constitution may be proposed by the Congress
35 whenever two-thirds of both Houses deem it necessary, or on the applica-
36 tion of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states the Congress

1 shall call a constitutional convention for the purpose of proposing
2 amendments. We believe such action vital;

3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SEVENTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
5 ARKANSAS:

6 THAT this Body proposes to the Congress of the United States that
7 procedures be instituted in the Congress to add a new Article to the
8 Constitution of the United States, and that the General Assembly of the
9 State of Arkansas requests the Congress to prepare and submit to the
10 several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States,
11 requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the total of all
12 Federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not
13 exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues for that fiscal year; and
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

15 THAT, alternatively, this Body makes application and requests that
16 the Congress of the United States call a constitutional convention for the
17 specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Federal
18 Constitution requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the
19 total of all Federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal
20 year may not exceed the total of all estimated Federal revenues for that
21 fiscal year; and
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

23 THAT this Body also proposes that the legislatures of each of the
24 several states comprising the United States apply to the Congress requesting
25 the enactment of an appropriate amendment to the Federal Constitution, or
26 requiring the Congress to call a constitutional convention for proposing such
27 an amendment to the Federal Constitution; and
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

29 THAT copies of this Resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to
30 the Arkansas Congressional Delegation; and
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

32 THAT the Secretary of State of the State of Arkansas is directed to
33 send copies of this Joint Resolution to the Secretary of State and presiding
34 officers of both Houses of the Legislature of each of the other States in
35 the Union, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Washington,
36 D. C., and the Secretary of the United States Senate, Washington, D. C.