

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVESHOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY

-321

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REQUESTING APPROPRIATE ACTION BY THE
3 CONGRESS, EITHER ACTING BY CONSENT OF TWO-THIRDS OF BOTH
4 HOUSES OR, UPON THE APPLICATION OF THE LEGISLATURES OF
5 TWO-THIRDS OF THE SEVERAL STATES, CALLING A
6 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE
7 FEDERAL CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE, WITH CERTAIN
8 EXCEPTIONS, THAT THE TOTAL OF ALL FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS
9 MAY NOT EXCEED THE TOTAL OF ALL ESTIMATED FEDERAL
10 REVENUES IN ANY FISCAL YEAR.

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the
34 United States, amendments to the Federal Constitution may be
35 proposed by the Congress whenever two-thirds of both Houses
36 deem it necessary, or on the application of the Legislatures
37 of two-thirds of the several states the Congress shall call
38 a Constitutional Convention for the purpose of proposing
39 amendments. We believe such action vital.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the
41 First Regular Session of the Forty-fifth Idaho Legislature,
42 the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring, that
43 the Legislature proposes to the Congress of the United

1 States that procedures be instituted in the Congress to add
2 a new Article to the Constitution of the United States, and
3 that the legislature requests the Congress to prepare and
4 submit to the several states an amendment to the
5 constitution of the United States, requiring in the absence
6 of a national emergency that the total of all federal
7 appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may
8 not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for
9 that fiscal year; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, alternatively, the
11 Legislature makes application and requests that the Congress
12 of the United States call a Constitutional Convention for
13 the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment
14 to the Federal Constitution requiring in the absence of a
15 national emergency that the total of all federal
16 appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may
17 not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for
18 that fiscal year; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this application by this
20 Legislature constitutes a continuing application in
21 accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United
22 States until at least two-thirds of the Legislatures of the
23 several states have made similar applications pursuant to
24 Article V, but if Congress proposes an amendment to the
25 Constitution identical in subject matter to that contained
26 in this resolution then this petition for a Constitutional
27 Convention shall no longer be of any force or effect; and

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this application and
29 request be deemed null and void, rescinded, and of no effect
30 in the event that such convention not be limited to such
31 specific and exclusive purpose; and

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Legislature also
33 proposes that the Legislatures of each of the several states
34 comprising the United States apply to the Congress
35 requesting the enactment of an appropriate amendment to the
36 Federal Constitution; or require the Congress to call a
37 Constitutional Convention for proposing such an amendment to
38 the Federal Constitution; and

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the House of
40 Representatives be and he is hereby directed to forward
41 copies of this resolution to the Secretary of State and
42 presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislatures of
43 each of the other States in the Union, the Speaker of the
44 United States House of Representatives, the President of the
45 United States Senate, and the members of the Congress of the
46 United States representing the State of Idaho.