

Regular Session, 1975

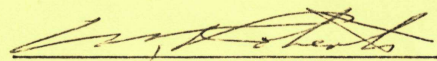
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY MR. W. D. BROWN

ORIGINATED

IN THE

SENATE


SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

Regular Session, 1975

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To apply to the Congress of the United States for a convention to propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

WHEREAS, an ever-increasing public debt is inimical to the general welfare of the people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the national debt is already dangerously high and any further increases will be harmful and costly to the people of the United States; and

WHEREAS, a continuous program of deficit financing by the federal government is one of the greatest factors supporting the inflationary conditions presently existing in this country and therefore has been the chief factor in reducing the value of the American currency; and

WHEREAS, payment of the increased interest required by the ever-increasing debt would impose an undue hardship on those with fixed incomes and those in lower income brackets; and

WHEREAS, it is not in the best interest of either this or future generations to continue such a practice of deficit spending particularly since this would possibly deplete our supply of national resources for future generations; and

WHEREAS, by constantly increasing deficit financing the federal government has been allowed to allocate considerable funds to wasteful and in many instances nonbeneficial public programs; and

WHEREAS, by limiting the federal government to spend only the revenues that are estimated will be collected in a given fiscal year,

except for certain specified emergencies, this could possibly result in greater selectivity of federal government programs for the benefit of the public and which would depend upon the willingness of the public to pay additional taxes to finance such programs; and

WHEREAS, there is provision in Article V of the Constitution of the United States for amending the Constitution by the Congress, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, calling a convention for proposing amendments which shall be valid to all intents and purposes when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana, the House of Representatives thereof concurring, that we do hereby make application, pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, to the Congress of the United States to call a convention of the several states for the proposing of the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States:

"AMENDMENT _____

SECTION 1. Except as provided in Section 3, the Congress shall make no appropriation for any fiscal year if the resulting total of appropriations for such fiscal year would exceed the total revenues of the United States for such fiscal year.

SECTION 2. There shall be no increase in the national debt and such debt, as it exists on the date on which this article is ratified, shall be repaid during the one-hundred-year period beginning with the first fiscal year which begins after the date on which this article is ratified. The rate of repayment shall be such that one-tenth of such debt shall be repaid during each ten-year interval of such one-hundred-year period.

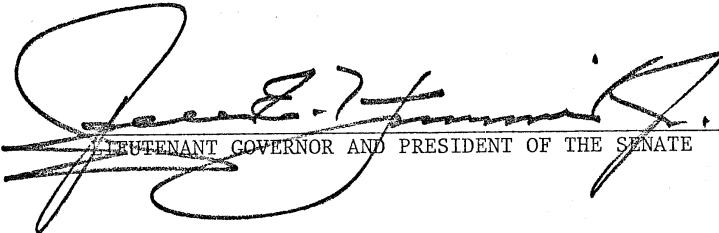
SECTION 3. In time of war or national emergency, as declared by the Congress, the application of Section 1 or Section 2 of this article, or both such sections, may be suspended by a concurrent resolution which has passed the Senate and the House of Representatives by an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the authorized membership of each such house.

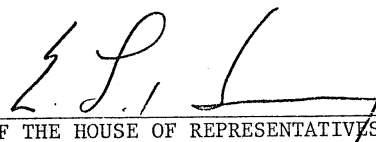
Such suspension shall not be effective past the two-year term of the Congress which passes such resolution, and if war or an emergency continues to exist such suspension must be reenacted in the same manner as provided herein.

SECTION 4. This article shall apply only with respect to fiscal years which begin more than six months after the date on which this article is ratified."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application by the Legislature of the state of Louisiana constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made similar applications pursuant to Article V, but if Congress proposes an amendment to the Constitution identical with that contained in this Resolution before January 1, 1976, this application for a convention of the several states shall no longer be of any force or effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a duly attested copy of this Resolution be immediately transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate of the United States, the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States; to each member of the Congress from this state; and to each house of each state legislature in the United States.


LEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE


SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES