

# Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 - Introduced

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

BY ZAUN, JOHNSON, CHELGREN, and WHITVER

1 A Concurrent Resolution urging the members of the  
2 Congress of the United States to propose a balanced  
3 budget amendment to the Constitution of the  
4 United States for submission to the states for  
5 ratification.

6 WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the state of Iowa  
7 acknowledges that the United States of America is  
8 facing a crippling debt crisis because of expenditures  
9 in excess of revenues and unwise fiscal policies; and

10 WHEREAS, a near majority of United States Senators  
11 specifically expressed support for a requirement to  
12 balance the federal budget; and

13 WHEREAS, on December 14, 2011, the United States  
14 Senate considered but did not approve the following  
15 proposed Constitutional Amendment, Senate Joint  
16 Resolution 10, which was originally introduced  
17 by United States Senators Orrin Hatch and Charles  
18 Grassley, and other senators:

19 Section 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall  
20 not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless  
21 two-thirds of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each  
22 House of Congress shall provide by law for a specific  
23 excess of outlays over receipts by a roll call vote.

24 Section 2. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall  
25 not exceed 18 percent of the gross domestic product of  
26 the United States for the calendar year ending before  
27 the beginning of such fiscal year, unless two-thirds  
28 of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of

1 Congress shall provide by law for a specific amount in  
2 excess of such 18 percent by a roll call vote.

3 Section 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President  
4 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for  
5 the United States Government for that fiscal year in  
6 which—

7 (1) total outlays do not exceed total receipts; and

8 (2) total outlays do not exceed 18 percent of the  
9 gross domestic product of the United States for the  
10 calendar year ending before the beginning of such  
11 fiscal year.

12 Section 4. Any bill that imposes a new tax or  
13 increases the statutory rate of any tax or the  
14 aggregate amount of revenue may pass only by a  
15 two-thirds majority of the duly chosen and sworn  
16 Members of each House of Congress by a roll call  
17 vote. For the purpose of determining any increase in  
18 revenue under this section, there shall be excluded any  
19 increase resulting from the lowering of the statutory  
20 rate of any tax.

21 Section 5. The limit on the debt of the United  
22 States shall not be increased, unless three-fifths  
23 of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of  
24 Congress shall provide for such an increase by a roll  
25 call vote.

26 Section 6. The Congress may waive the provisions  
27 of sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this article for any  
28 fiscal year in which a declaration of war against a  
29 nation-state is in effect and in which a majority of  
30 the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of

1 Congress shall provide for a specific excess by a roll  
2 call vote.

3 Section 7. The Congress may waive the provisions  
4 of sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this article in any  
5 fiscal year in which the United States is engaged in a  
6 military conflict that causes an imminent and serious  
7 military threat to national security and is so declared  
8 by three-fifths of the duly chosen and sworn Members  
9 of each House of Congress by a roll call vote. Such  
10 suspension must identify and be limited to the specific  
11 excess of outlays for that fiscal year made necessary  
12 by the identified military conflict.

13 Section 8. No court of the United States or of any  
14 State shall order any increase in revenue to enforce  
15 this article.

16 Section 9. Total receipts shall include all  
17 receipts of the United States Government except those  
18 derived from borrowing. Total outlays shall include  
19 all outlays of the United States Government except  
20 those for repayment of debt principal.

21 Section 10. The Congress shall have power to  
22 enforce and implement this article by appropriate  
23 legislation, which may rely on estimates of outlays,  
24 receipts, and gross domestic product.

25 Section 11. This article shall take effect  
26 beginning with the fifth fiscal year beginning after  
27 its ratification; and

28 WHEREAS, proposing and ratifying this amendment  
29 would provide a requirement in the Constitution of  
30 the United States for a balanced federal budget; NOW

1 THEREFORE,

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the Iowa General  
4 Assembly urges the members of the United States Senate  
5 and the United States House of Representatives from  
6 this state to support a proposed balanced budget  
7 amendment, the same or substantially similar to  
8 that described by this resolution, by cosponsoring  
9 resolutions proposing the amendment in their respective  
10 chambers; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General  
12 Assembly urges the members of the Congress of the  
13 United States to adopt a proposed balanced budget  
14 amendment, the same or substantially similar to that  
15 described by this resolution, for submission to the  
16 states of the United States for ratification; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of this  
18 resolution, the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit  
19 copies of this resolution to the President of the  
20 Senate and members of the United States Senate, the  
21 Speaker and members of the United States House of  
22 Representatives, and to the clerk of each of the  
23 legislative chambers of the other states.