

## Senate Concurrent Resolution 2 - Introduced

### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY ZAUN, WHITVER, SINCLAIR, FEENSTRA, CHELGREN,  
CHAPMAN, and SCHNEIDER

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

1 of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of  
2 Congress shall provide by law for a specific amount in  
3 excess of such 18 percent by a roll call vote.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of  
2 Congress shall provide for a specific excess by a roll  
3 call vote.

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

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

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

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

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

29 WHEREAS, proposing and ratifying this amendment  
30 would provide a requirement in the Constitution of

S.C.R. 2

1 the United States for a balanced federal budget; NOW  
2 THEREFORE,

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

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

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of this  
19 resolution, the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit  
20 copies of this resolution to the President of the  
21 United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States  
22 House of Representatives, and to the members of Iowa's  
23 Congressional delegation.