115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 119

Proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 23, 2017

Mr. BRAT (for himself, Mr. SANFORD, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, and Mr. KATKO) submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

1   *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*

2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled*

3 *(two-thirds of each House concurring therein),* That the fol-

4 lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-

5 stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all

6 intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when

7 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several

1 States within seven years after the date of its submission

2 for ratification:

3   "ARTICLE —

4   "SECTION 1. Expenditures and receipts shall be bal-

5 anced, which may occur over more than one year to accom-

6 modate economic conditions. Expenditures shall include all

7 expenditures of the United States except those for pay-

8 ment of debt, and receipts shall include all receipts of the

9 United States except those derived from borrowing.

10   "SECTION 2. For emergency situations two-thirds of

11 the House of Representatives and the Senate may for lim-

12 ited times authorize expenditures exceeding those pursu-

13 ant to rules established under section 1. Debts incurred

14 from such expenditures shall be paid as soon as prac-

15 ticable.

16   "SECTION 3. Congress shall have power to enforce

17 this article by appropriate legislation, which shall allow

18 not more than ten years after ratification to comply with

19 section 1.".

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