

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 78

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 21, 2022

Mrs. BOEBERT (for herself, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. MASSIE)
submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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*
8 *States within seven years after the date of its submission*
9 *for ratification:*

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall
3 not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year.

4 “SECTION 2. The limit on the debt of the United
5 States held by the public shall not be increased.

6 “SECTION 3. Prior to each fiscal year, the President
7 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the
8 United States Government for that fiscal year in which
9 total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

10 “SECTION 4. No bill to increase revenue shall become
11 law unless approved by two-thirds of the whole number
12 of each House by a rollcall vote.

13 “SECTION 5. For emergency situations, the Congress
14 may, by approval by two-thirds of the whole number of
15 each House, for limited times authorize expenditures ex-
16 ceeding those pursuant to sections 1 and 2. Any debt in-
17 curred from such expenditures shall be paid as soon as
18 practicable.

19 “SECTION 6. The Congress shall enforce and imple-
20 ment this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely
21 on estimates of outlays and receipts.

22 “SECTION 7. Total receipts shall include all receipts
23 of the United States Government except those derived
24 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of

1 the United States Government except for those for repay-
2 ment of debt principal.

3 “SECTION 8. This article shall take effect beginning
4 with the fifth fiscal year beginning after its ratification.”.

