

## House Resolution 1832

By: Representatives Dutton of the 157<sup>th</sup>, Harbin of the 122<sup>nd</sup>, Cooke of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Dudgeon of the 25<sup>th</sup>, Pezold of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Petitioning the Congress of the United States to adopt an amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the United States, for submission to the states, to require, with certain exceptions, that the  
3 federal budget be balanced; or, in the alternative, to call a convention for the sole and  
4 exclusive purpose of proposing a federal balanced budget amendment for submission to the  
5 states for ratification; and for other purposes.

6 WHEREAS, with each passing year this nation becomes more deeply in debt as its  
7 expenditures grossly, and repeatedly, exceed available revenues so that the public debt now  
8 exceeds \$17 trillion; and

9 WHEREAS, attempts to limit spending, including the impoundment of funds by the  
10 President of the United States, have resulted in strenuous assertions that the responsibility  
11 for appropriations is the constitutional duty of the Congress; and

12 WHEREAS, the annual federal budget repeatedly demonstrates the unwillingness or inability  
13 of both the legislative and executive branches of the federal government to curtail spending  
14 to conform to available revenues; and

15 WHEREAS, the unified budget does not reflect actual spending because of the exclusion of  
16 special outlays which are not in the budget; and

17 WHEREAS, knowledgeable planning and fiscal prudence require that the budget reflect all  
18 federal spending and that the budget be in balance; and

19 WHEREAS, believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is one of the greatest  
20 economic threats which faces our nation, we firmly believe that constitutional restraint is  
21 necessary to bring the fiscal discipline needed to reverse this trend; and

22 WHEREAS, the mounting debt level is putting our country not only at economic security  
23 risk, but it is opening our country up to a national security risk as our debt level restricts our  
24 capacity to act and shows weakness to our enemies; and

25 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States, amendments to the  
26 United States Constitution may be proposed by the Congress: (a) whenever two-thirds of  
27 both Houses deem it necessary; or (b) on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of  
28 the several states, the Congress shall call a constitutional convention for the purpose of  
29 proposing amendments.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
31 GEORGIA that the Congress of the United States of America is hereby petitioned to adopt  
32 an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, for submission to the states for  
33 ratification, requiring, with certain exceptions, that for each fiscal year the President of the  
34 United States submit and the Congress of the United States adopt a balanced federal budget.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United  
36 States, the legislature of this state makes application to the Congress of the United States to  
37 call a convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the  
38 Constitution of the United States, for submission to the states for ratification, requiring, with  
39 certain exceptions, that for each fiscal year the President of the United States submit and the  
40 Congress of the United States adopt a balanced federal budget.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if Congress adopts, within 90 days after the legislatures  
42 of two-thirds of the states have made application for such convention, an amendment to the  
43 Constitution of the United States similar in subject matter to that contained in this resolution,  
44 then this application for a convention shall no longer be of any force or effect.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application and request be deemed null and void,  
46 rescinded, and of no effect in the event that such convention not be limited to the  
47 aforementioned specific and exclusive purpose of a federal balanced budget amendment.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application shall be deemed null and void,  
49 rescinded, and of no effect in the event the United States Supreme Court rules that a  
50 convention cannot be limited to the subject stated in 34 such applications.

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this application by this legislature constitutes a  
52 continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States  
53 until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made application for a  
54 similar convention pursuant to Article V or Congress has proposed an amendment to the  
55 Constitution of the United States similar in subject matter to that contained in this joint  
56 resolution.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
58 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the President of the United  
59 States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, to each member  
60 of this state's delegation to the Congress, and to the presiding officer of each house of each  
61 state legislature in the United States.