

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2

By: Gustafson of the Senate

and

Ferguson of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

A Concurrent Resolution reaffirming support for a Balanced Budget Amendment to the United States Constitution; encouraging Congress to pass the Balanced Budget Amendment without delay; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the annual federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and the unlimited ability of the federal government to borrow has resulted in a federal debt totaling \$5.3 trillion, saddling the future generations with the prospect of paying for the spending habits of those previously in power; and

WHEREAS, the federal government's unlimited ability to borrow raises questions about fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound consequences for the nation and its people, making it an appropriate subject for limitation by the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the Balanced Budget Amendment would result in more resources expended in private investment, causing interest rates to drop and offering business an opportunity to

expand. An economic analysis has determined that 2.5 million jobs could be created by the year 2002 if a balanced federal budget were achieved; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Legislature has previously enacted resolutions to encourage the federal government to balance its budget, giving the people of the United States the same constitutional protection against deficit spending that is currently enjoyed by the citizens of the State of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of the 105th Congress has declared passage of a Balanced Budget Amendment to the United States Constitution an immediate priority.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 46TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature reaffirms its support for a Balanced Budget Amendment to the United States Constitution.

THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature encourages the Congress of the United States to expeditiously pass, and propose to the Legislatures of the several states for ratification, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to members of the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation.

46-1-1011

THC