

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 33

By: Newberry, Holt, Jolley,
Brecheen, Schulz, Brinkley,
Crain, David, Fields,
Aldridge, Anderson,
Barrington, Halligan,
Simpson, Mazzei, Justice,
Ford, Allen, Marlatt,
Bingman, Sykes, Coates,
Brown, Treat and
Stanislowski of the Senate

and

Mulready of the House

11 A Concurrent Resolution calling upon the Congress of
12 the United States to initiate an amendment to the
13 United States Constitution requiring a balanced
14 budget annually; and directing distribution.

15 WHEREAS, the fiscal policies of the United States federal
16 government have placed our country on an unsustainable path,
17 creating unprecedented debt, hindering job creation and threatening
18 future generations of Americans with a diminished future; and

19 WHEREAS, an irresponsible pattern of spending and borrowing has
20 resulted in a total outstanding national debt of more than \$15
21 trillion, an amount greater than the gross domestic product of the
22 United States; and

1 WHEREAS, the federal government in 2011 raised the debt ceiling
2 to prevent the United States of America from facing its first ever
3 default; and

4 WHEREAS, interest payments on our nation's debt now exceed \$200
5 billion annually, and as a result of the federal government's
6 failure to offer a credible plan to address the nation's fiscal
7 crisis, the credit rating of the United States in 2011 was lowered
8 for the first time; and

9 WHEREAS, our nation's fiscal crisis threatens our economy and
10 national security, has contributed to an erosion of trust in
11 government, and exposes future generations to dire economic
12 consequences; and

13 WHEREAS, the federal government has failed to approve a budget
14 since 2009 and has not produced a balanced budget since 2001. A
15 budget is not only a constitutional requirement, it is a fundamental
16 responsibility and a reflection of principles and vision; and

17 WHEREAS, nearly all states are constitutionally required to
18 produce balanced budgets, though economic conditions vary and demand
19 for government services may increase, leaders are required to make
20 difficult decisions in accordance with the fundamental principles of
21 fiscal prudence; and

22 WHEREAS, the people of the United States expect and demand the
23 same of our federal government.
24

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION
2 OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3 CONCURRING THEREIN:

4 THAT the Legislature of the State of Oklahoma hereby calls upon
5 the President and Congress of the United States of America to
6 initiate the process of amending the Constitution of the United
7 States to require a balanced budget annually, and to reduce both
8 annual deficit spending levels and the national debt.

9 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma
10 Congressional Delegation and the President of the United States.

11 Passed the Senate the 27th day of March, 2012.

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13 _____
14 Presiding Officer of the Senate

15 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,
16 2012.

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18 _____
19 Presiding Officer of the House
20 of Representatives
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