

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

4 ENGROSSED SENATE  
5 CONCURRENT  
6 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  
Stanislawski of the Senate

and

Mulready of the House

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24

1       WHEREAS, the people of the United States expect and demand the  
2 same of our federal government.

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

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

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

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14 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.

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