112TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H. J. RES. 41

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 17, 2011

Mr. DEFAZIO introduced 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 Con5 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:

"ARTICLE —

2 "SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall
3 not exceed total receipts for that fiscal year, unless three4 fifths of the whole number of each House of Congress shall
5 provide by law for a specific excess of outlays over receipts
6 by a rollcall vote.

7 "SECTION 2. Prior to each fiscal year, the President
8 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the
9 United States Government for that fiscal year in which
10 total outlays do not exceed total receipts.

11 "SECTION 3. No bill to increase or decrease revenue12 shall become law unless approved by a majority of the13 whole number of each House by a rollcall vote.

14 "SECTION 4. The Congress may waive the provisions15 of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration16 of war is in effect.

17 "SECTION 5. The Congress shall enforce and implement this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely 18 on estimates of outlays and receipts. The appropriate com-19 mittees of the House of Representatives and the Senate 20 21 shall report to their respective Houses implementing legis-22 lation to achieve a balanced budget without reducing the 23 disbursements of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors In-24 surance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance 25 Trust Fund to achieve that goal.

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"SECTION 6. Total receipts shall include all receipts
 of the United States Government except those derived
 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of
 the United States Government except for those for repay ment of debt principal.

6 "SECTION 7. This article shall take effect beginning
7 with the later of the second fiscal year beginning after its
8 ratification or the first fiscal year beginning after Decem9 ber 31, 2016.".

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