

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. J. RES. 90

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

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

Ms. MACE submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## 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 (two-*  
3   *thirds of each House concurring therein), That the fol-*  
4   *lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-*  
5   *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:*

1 “ARTICLE —

2 “SECTION 1. Total expenditures for a year shall not  
3 exceed the average annual revenue collected in the three  
4 prior years, adjusted in proportion to changes in popu-  
5 lation and inflation. Total expenditures shall include all  
6 expenditures of the United States except those for pay-  
7 ment of debt, and revenue shall include all revenue of the  
8 United States except that derived from borrowing.

9 “SECTION 2. Congress may by a roll call vote of  
10 three-quarters of each House declare an emergency and  
11 provide by law for specific expenditures in excess of the  
12 limit in section 1. The declaration shall specify reasons  
13 for the emergency designation and may authorize expendi-  
14 tures in excess of the limit in section 1 for up to one year.

15 “SECTION 3. Congress shall have power to enforce  
16 this article by appropriate legislation.

17 “SECTION 4. This article shall take effect in the first  
18 year beginning at least 90 days following ratification, ex-  
19 cept that expenditures may exceed the limit in section 1  
20 by the following portion of the prior year’s expenditures  
21 exceeding that limit (excepting emergency expenditures  
22 provided for by section 2): nine-tenths in the first year,  
23 eight-ninths in the second, seven-eighths in the third, six-  
24 sevenths in the fourth, five-sixths in the fifth, four-fifths

1 in the sixth, three-fourths in the seventh, two-thirds in the  
2 eighth, and one-half in the ninth.”

