

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. J. RES. 3

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative  
to balancing the budget.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2019

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH introduced the following joint resolution; which was read  
twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United  
States relative to balancing the budget.

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 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 of the duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of  
2 Congress by a rollcall vote. For the purpose of determining  
3 any increase in revenue under this section, there shall be  
4 excluded any increase resulting from the lowering of the  
5 statutory rate of any tax.

6 “SECTION 5. The limit on the debt of the United  
7 States shall not be increased, unless three-fifths of the  
8 duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of Con-  
9 gress shall provide for such an increase by a rollcall vote.

10 “SECTION 6. Congress may waive the provisions of  
11 sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this article for any fiscal year  
12 in which a declaration of war against a nation-state is in  
13 effect and in which a majority of the duly chosen and  
14 sworn Members of each House of Congress shall provide  
15 for a specific excess by a rollcall vote.

16 “SECTION 7. Congress may waive the provisions of  
17 sections 1, 2, 3, and 5 of this article in any fiscal year  
18 in which the United States is engaged in a military conflict  
19 that causes an imminent and serious military threat to  
20 national security and is so declared by three-fifths of the  
21 duly chosen and sworn Members of each House of Con-  
22 gress by a rollcall vote. Such suspension must identify and  
23 be limited to the specific excess of outlays for that fiscal  
24 year made necessary by the identified military conflict.

1       “SECTION 8. No court of the United States or of any  
2 State shall order any increase in revenue to enforce this  
3 article.

4       “SECTION 9. Total receipts shall include all receipts  
5 of the United States Government except those derived  
6 from borrowing. Total outlays shall include all outlays of  
7 the United States Government except those for repayment  
8 of debt principal.

9       “SECTION 10. Congress shall have power to enforce  
10 and implement this article by appropriate legislation,  
11 which may rely on estimates of outlays, receipts, and gross  
12 domestic product.

13       “SECTION 11. This article shall take effect beginning  
14 with the fifth fiscal year beginning after its ratification.”.

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