

State of Wisconsin



2017 Assembly Joint Resolution 21

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to: application to Congress under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States for a convention for proposing amendments relating to a balanced budget.

Whereas, previous presidential administrations and Congress have allowed an unprecedented amount of federal debt to accumulate, which currently exceeds \$20 trillion; and

Whereas, a report by President Obama's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform issued a warning on the debt levels, stating: "If the U.S. does not put its house in order, the reckoning will be sure and the devastation severe"; and

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States does not currently require the federal government to operate under a balanced budget; and

Whereas, members of both political parties and both houses of Congress have called for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States to no avail; and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States authorizes the legislatures of the states to convene a convention for proposing amendments upon the passage of 34 state resolutions; and

Whereas, 49 states, by constitution or statute, require a balanced budget; and

Whereas, the legislature of the State of Wisconsin supports the federal government operating under a balanced budget; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the legislature of the State of Wisconsin herewith respectfully applies to Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the Constitution of the United States, for the calling of a convention for proposing amendments, for the limited purpose of requiring the federal government to operate under a balanced budget; and, be it further

Resolved, That the senate chief clerk and the assembly chief clerk, jointly, are hereby directed to forward a proper authenticated copy of this resolution to the President of the Senate of the United States, and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States; and, be it further

Resolved, That this resolution constitutes a continuing application for a convention for proposing amendments in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until such a convention is convened on the same subject or until the legislature of the State of Wisconsin rescinds this resolution.

Senator Roger Roth
President of the Senate

Representative Robin J. Vos
Speaker of the Assembly

Date

Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk