

By: Raymond

H.C.R. No. 61

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Year after year, the federal government has failed
2 to make fiscally responsible choices, and Washington must now take
3 aggressive steps to address our burgeoning national deficit; and

4 WHEREAS, According to the Congressional Budget Office, the
5 federal deficit will reach \$845 billion in 2013; the CBO projects
6 that if the laws that govern taxes and spending do not change,
7 federal debt held by the public will reach 76 percent of gross
8 domestic product by the end of the fiscal year, the largest
9 percentage since 1950; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States Congress routinely passes budgets
11 leading the government to spend more than it receives in revenue; in
12 order to finance the resulting budget deficit, the U.S. Treasury
13 must sell bonds and the government must pay interest on those bonds;
14 this cycle of deficit spending leaves less money for new programs or
15 tax cuts, and it could prove detrimental to the future stability of
16 our nation; and

17 WHEREAS, In the past, such statutory restraints as the failed
18 Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation and "PAYGO" rules have proven
19 ineffective and unenforceable, since simple majorities in Congress
20 can alter, weaken, or dismantle fiscal reforms; an amendment to the
21 U.S. Constitution, which requires the assent of two-thirds of
22 Congress and three-quarters of the states, is the only means of
23 guaranteeing permanent enforcement of spending restraints; and

24 WHEREAS, A federal balanced budget amendment will ensure that

1 Congress uses taxpayer dollars wisely, and it is vital that we take
2 this step to avert fiscal calamity and eliminate future deficits;
3 now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas
5 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to
6 propose and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to
7 the United States Constitution providing for a balanced federal
8 budget; and, be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
10 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
11 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of
12 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the
13 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that
14 this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record
15 as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.