

By: Metcalf

H.C.R. No. 59

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 serious national deficit; and

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

11 WHEREAS, The State of Texas is one of 46 states that require a
12 balanced budget either constitutionally or by statute, and it is
13 reasonable to expect the federal government to operate within
14 similarly responsible parameters; through the years, many states
15 have requested that Congress propose a constitutional amendment
16 requiring a balanced budget, and although such a proposal won broad
17 congressional support in 1995, it failed by one vote in the senate;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, It is a fundamental truth that no entity can remain
20 solvent when expenditures continually outpace revenue, and every
21 home and every business must spend within its means or face
22 calamity; the fiscal irresponsibility of the federal government not
23 only jeopardizes the country's economic stability, but also
24 threatens national security; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
2 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to
3 propose and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to
4 the United States Constitution providing that--except during a war
5 declared by the Congress of the United States pursuant to Clause 11,
6 Section 8, Article I, United States Constitution--the total of all
7 federal appropriations for a fiscal year may not exceed the total of
8 all estimated federal revenue for that fiscal year; and, be it
9 further

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