

By: Raymond, Gonzales of Williamson

H.C.R. No. 36

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 bonds;  
8 this cycle of deficit spending leaves less money for new programs or  
9 tax cuts, and it could prove detrimental to the future stability of  
10 our nation; and

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

18           WHEREAS, A federal balanced budget amendment will ensure that  
19 Congress uses taxpayer dollars wisely, and it is vital that we take  
20 this step to avert fiscal calamity and eliminate future deficits;  
21 now, therefore, be it

22           RESOLVED, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas  
23 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to  
24 propose and submit to the states for ratification an amendment to

1 the United States Constitution providing for a balanced federal  
2 budget; and, be it further

3       RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official  
4 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to  
5 the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of  
6 Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the  
7 members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that  
8 this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record  
9 as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.