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ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

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<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Karen Haas
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Texas, received by the House of Representatives in the year 1979, as purporting to be an application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte
Chairman



The State of Texas

SECRETARY OF STATE

I, GEORGE W. STRAKE, JR., Secretary of State of the State of Texas, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the attached is a true and correct copy of House Concurrent Resolution Number 31 as passed by the 65th Legislature, Regular Session, 1977, signed by the Governor on June 16, 1977 and filed in this office on June 16, 1977.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name officially and caused to be impressed hereon the Seal of State at my office in the City of Austin, this

9th day of March, A. D. 19 79.

GW Strake, Jr.

Secretary of State

MAY 3 1977

H.C.R. No. 31

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, With each passing year this nation becomes more
2 deeply in debt as its expenditures grossly and repeatedly exceed
3 available revenues, so that the public debt now exceeds hundreds of
4 billions of dollars; and

5 WHEREAS, The annual federal budget continually demonstrates
6 an unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and executive
7 branches of the federal government to curtail spending to conform
8 to available revenues; and

9 WHEREAS, Unified budgets do not reflect actual spending
10 because of the exclusion of special outlays which are not included
11 in the budget nor subject to the legal public debt limit; and

12 WHEREAS, Knowledgeable planning, fiscal prudence, and plain
13 good sense require that the budget reflect all federal spending and
14 be in balance; and

15 WHEREAS, Believing that fiscal irresponsibility at the
16 federal level, with the inflation which results from this policy,
17 is the greatest threat which faces our nation, we firmly believe
18 that constitutional restraint is necessary to bring the fiscal
19 discipline needed to restore financial responsibility; and

20 WHEREAS, Under Article V of the Constitution of the United
21 States, amendments to the federal constitution may be proposed by
22 the congress whenever two-thirds of both houses deem it necessary,
23 or on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the
24 several states the congress shall call a constitutional convention

for the sole purpose of proposing amendments. We believe such action vital; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Texas, the Senate concurring, That the 65th Legislature propose to the Congress of the United States that procedures be instituted in the congress to add a new article to the Constitution of the United States, and that the State of Texas request the congress to prepare and submit to the several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring, in the absence of a national emergency, that the total of all federal appropriations made by the congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That, alternatively, this body request that the Congress of the United States call a constitutional convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the federal constitution requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the total of all federal appropriations made by the congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this body also propose that the legislatures of each of the several states comprising the United States apply to the congress requesting the enactment of an appropriate amendment to the federal constitution; or requiring the congress to call a constitutional convention for proposing such an amendment to the federal constitution; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared and forwarded to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the

House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to all members of the Texas delegation to congress; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution also be prepared and forwarded to the secretaries of state and to the presiding officers of the legislatures of the other states with the request that they join this state in making application to the United States Congress to call a convention for proposing the aforementioned amendment to the United States Constitution.

W.P. Hobby

President of the Senate

Carl Albert

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 31 was adopted by the House on May 23, 1977, by a non-record vote.

Betty Murray

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 31 was adopted by the Senate on May 30, 1977, by the following vote: Yeas 25, Nays 6.

Betty King

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

June 16, 1977

Date

W. A. B. Brown

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
3:45 p.m. O'CLOCK

JUN 16 1977

Mark White
Secretary of State