

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

WHEREAS, the federal public debt has surpassed twelve trillion dollars, which equates to tens of thousands of dollars for each person in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, commonly known as the “bailout plan” authorized the United States Treasury to spend up to seven hundred billion dollars with little or no transparency or accountability regarding the use of taxpayers' money; and

WHEREAS, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues; and

WHEREAS, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is creating an extraordinary financial burden to be carried by future generations of this country; and

WHEREAS, the federal government's seemingly unlimited borrowing of money raises questions about the fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound consequences for this nation and its people, making it an appropriate subject for limitation by the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States vests the ultimate responsibility to approve or disapprove constitutional amendments with the people, as represented by their elected state legislatures:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge Congress to adopt a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution that requires a balance in the projected revenues and expenditures of the United States federal government when preparing and approving the annual federal budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and members of the Missouri congressional delegation.

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