

Introduced: 4/30/85
Referred: State Affairs
and Judiciary

1 IN THE SENATE

BY COGHILL

2 SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to amendments to the Constitu-
6 tion of the United States and rescinding
7 Legislative Resolve Number 1 of the
8 Second Session of the Twelfth Alaska
9 State Legislature.

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

11 WHEREAS each fiscal year the United States government becomes more
12 deeply in debt as its expenditures exceed its available revenue, and the
13 federal deficit now exceeds hundreds of billions of dollars; and

14 WHEREAS the federal budget graphically demonstrates the unwillingness
15 or inability of federal decision-makers to appropriate in conformity with
16 available revenue; and

17 WHEREAS proper planning, fiscal prudence, and common sense would
18 dictate that the federal budget be in balance except in the event of a
19 national emergency; and

20 WHEREAS a continuously unbalanced federal budget causes economic chaos
21 and instability, and consequently threatens the political tranquility of
22 the United States; and

23 WHEREAS under Article V of the Constitution of the United States,
24 amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by Congress, or, on the
25 application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the states, Congress shall
26 call a constitutional convention for the purpose of proposing amendments;
27 and

28 WHEREAS Legislative Resolve Number 1 of the Second Session of the
29 Twelfth Alaska State Legislature asked that Congress either propose an

1 amendment requiring a balanced budget, or in the alternative, to call a
2 constitutional convention, the sole purpose of which would be to adopt such
3 an amendment; and

4 WHEREAS there exist no rules for the calling of such a convention, for
5 the apportionment of delegates among the several states at such a conven-
6 tion, or for procedures at the convention; and

7 WHEREAS the Congress has not enacted laws governing constitutional
8 conventions and has not proposed amendments to the Constitution governing
9 constitutional conventions; and

10 WHEREAS Alaska is one of 31 states that have issued a call for a
11 convention under Article V limited to consideration of a constitutional
12 amendment requiring a balanced federal budget;

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Congress of
14 the United States is requested to propose and submit to the states for
15 ratification, an amendment to the constitution of the United States that
16 would establish rules governing constitutional conventions, and that those
17 rules apportion the votes of the delegates on the basis of an equal number
18 of votes for each state; and be it

19 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United States is requested
20 to propose and submit to the states an amendment to the Constitution of the
21 United States that would require that within four years after its ratifica-
22 tion by the various states, in the absence of a national emergency, the
23 total of all appropriations made by Congress for a fiscal year shall not
24 exceed the total of all estimated federal revenue for that fiscal year; and
25 be it

26 FURTHER RESOLVED that Legislative Resolve Number 1 of the Second
27 Session of the Twelfth Alaska State Legislature is withdrawn.

28 A COPY of this resolution, together with a certified copy of Legisla-
29 tive Resolve 1 of the Second Session of the Twelfth Alaska State

1 Legislature, shall be sent to the Honorable George P. Shultz, Secretary of
2 State.

3 COPIES of this resolution shall also be sent to the Secretary of the
4 United States Senate; the Clerk of the United States House of Representa-
5 tives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski,
6 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of
7 the Alaska delegation in Congress.