

Offered: 3/6/86  
Referred: Judiciary

Original sponsor: Coghill

1 IN THE SENATE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8 (State Affairs)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND 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 proper planning, fiscal prudence, and common sense would  
15 dictate that the federal budget be in balance except in the event of a  
16 national emergency; and

17 WHEREAS a continuously unbalanced federal budget causes economic  
18 instability and consequently threatens the political tranquility of the  
19 United States; and

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

25 WHEREAS Legislative Resolve Number 1 of the Second Session of the  
26 Twelfth Alaska State Legislature asked that Congress either propose an  
27 amendment requiring a balanced budget, or in the alternative, to call a  
28 constitutional convention, the sole purpose of which would be to adopt such  
29 an amendment; and

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

4       WHEREAS the Congress has not enacted laws governing constitutional  
5 conventions and has not proposed amendments to the Constitution governing  
6 constitutional conventions; and

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

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

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

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

25       A COPY of this resolution, together with a certified copy of Legisla-  
26 tive Resolve 1 of the Second Session of the Twelfth Alaska State Legisla-  
27 ture, shall be sent to the Honorable George P. Shultz, Secretary of State.

28       COPIES of this resolution shall also be sent to the Secretary of the  
29 United States Senate; the Clerk of the United States House of

1 Representatives; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
2 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
3 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.