

HJR

16

Date Referred to Committee: January 27, 1997

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/6/97

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 16

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 16

SUPPORT FEDERAL BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

Relating to a federal balanced budget amendment.

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute _____ the same title a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S): (Dept) _____

APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) AGREED

zero fiscal note(s) _____

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Jennette James</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>		✓		
<i>[Signature]</i>		✓		
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓			
<i>[Signature]</i>			✓	

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE Jennette James

Alaska State Legislature



While in Session:
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
907-465-3719
Fax 907-465-3258

Interim:
119 N. Cushman, Suite 211
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-2879
907-456-5081
Fax 907-456-8245

Representative Al Vezey

SPONSOR STATEMENT HJR16

“Relating to a federal balanced budget amendment.”

Federal government overspending has become the rule and not the exception over the years. It is clear that change is needed and the federal government can no longer handle the responsibility of creating our national budget without new guidelines.

One generation should not have the right to burden another with its debts. The unlimited ability to borrow has resulted in a federal debt totaling \$5.3 trillion.

Our nation must learn to live within its means, just as each individual must. Passing a balanced budget amendment will bring discipline to our national spending: without this discipline we face economic chaos. With the passage of a Balanced Budget Amendment, more resources would go toward private investment, interest rates would drop and businesses could afford to expand. It is for these reasons I ask the members of both houses to support this resolution urging the Congress, the President of the United States, and each state of our nation to support the Balanced Budget Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.



REPUBLICAN GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION

NOW AMERICA'S MAJORITY

January 9, 1997

Dear Republican Leader:

As you know, the Republican leadership of the U.S. House and Senate has committed all of its efforts to early passage of the Balanced Budget Amendment. We are writing to express to you our support for the Balanced Budget Amendment. We also request that you consider sponsoring and/or supporting a resolution in your legislature asking the U.S. House and Senate to pass a Balanced Budget Amendment promptly in the 105th Congress.

One generation should not have the right to saddle another with its debts. The unlimited ability to borrow has resulted in a federal debt totaling \$5.3 trillion.

The benefits of the Balanced Budget Amendment are tangible. As more resources would go toward private investment, interest rates would drop and businesses could afford to expand. A nonpartisan economic analysis has determined that 2.5 million jobs could be created by 2002 if a balanced federal budget were achieved.

We know you consider it very important that the federal government balance its budget. We feel the Balanced Budget Amendment is the best means to ensure that Congress and the President take this responsibility seriously. We would appreciate any assistance you could provide in helping to pass a resolution in your legislature encouraging Congress to quickly pass the Balanced Budget Amendment.

Sincerely,

Terry E. Branstad
Governor of Iowa
Chairman
Republican Governors Association

Haley Barbour
Chairman
Republican National Committee

C. Robert Brawley
State Representative, NC
President, National Republican
Legislators Association

Barbara
This is all that I have
for HJR1016.
Don't know if AL will
continue to pursue this due to
the failure in the U.S. Senate by
vote.
Jump
3581

A L A S K A

**NFIB**National Federation of
Independent Business

MAR 04 1997

National Federation of Independent Business**Statement of Support for HJR 16****A Resolution in Support of the Federal
Balanced Budget Amendment****March 3, 1997**

The Alaska Chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business has 4,400 members, making it the largest small-business advocacy group in the state.

Small business owners have voted overwhelmingly for a balanced budget in several NFIB issue ballots. In addition, they have voted repeatedly for deficit reduction. Small businesses believe that the balanced budget amendment is necessary to force Congress to make responsible decisions on deficit reduction.

The National Federation of Independent Business has lobbied hard for the Balanced Budget Amendment to the US Constitution. Following is an excerpt from NFIB testimony before the US Senate Judiciary Committee:

Small business owners believe that the federal government should learn to live within its means. Ever-growing deficits have imperiled our financial security. As deficits increase, the availability and cost of capital increase. Large deficits absorb a significant portion of the available capital. As a result, private enterprises are crowded out of the pool of available capital for financing, and small businesses feel the impact even more since they have fewer financing alternatives.

To sum up, small business owners are frustrated and angry that their government officials cannot restrain their spending impulses. Therefore, the balanced budget is necessary to force federal officials to act responsibly.

NFIB/Alaska urges support for HJR 16.

Alaska State Legislature

While in Session:
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
907-465-3719
Fax 907-465-3258

Interim:
119 N. Cushman, Suite 211
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-2879
907-456-5081
Fax 907-456-8245

Representative Al Vezey

January 29, 1997

From: Representative Al Vezey ✓
State Capitol, Rm. 13

To: Representative Jeannette James
Chairman, House State Affairs Committee
Rm. 106, State Capitol Bldg.

Subject: Hearing Request on HJR16

425

I respectfully requested a hearing on HJR16, "*Relating to a federal balanced budget amendment*" before the State Affairs committee at the earliest convenience of that committee and it's chairman.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this request.

OK ✓
Riviera

**Model Resolution by State Legislatures
Requesting that the
Balanced Budget Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
be Submitted to the States for Ratification**

WHEREAS, the annual federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and the federal public debt is now more than \$5 trillion or \$20,000 for every man, woman, and child in America; 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 lowering our standard of living, destroying jobs, and endangering economic opportunity now and for the next generation; and

WHEREAS, the federal government's unlimited ability to borrow raises questions about fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound consequences for the 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; and opposition by a small minority repeatedly has thwarted the will of the People that a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution should be submitted to the States for ratification;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF _____, That the Congress of the United States expeditiously pass, and propose to the Legislatures of the several States for ratification, 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That [the appropriate State official(s)] transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, each Member of the [State] Congressional Delegation, and the Secretary of State and the presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislatures of each of the other States in the Union.

HJR 16



AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL

910 17th Street N.W. ■ Fifth Floor ■ Washington, D.C. 20006 ■ (202) 466-3800 ■ FAX (202) 466-3801

*faxed
1/23/97
lee*

Dear Member of Congress,

As members of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) we would like to take this opportunity to welcome the 105th Congress. It is both an exciting and challenging time to be an elected official in this great nation.

During the next few years, you will be faced with many historic opportunities to advance the American dream of freedom, opportunity and prosperity. But none will be as significant as enacting and sending to the states for ratification a Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment.

As state legislators who must balance our state budgets each year, we understand the difficult choices you will face. Unfortunately, as the past 29 years have shown, it has been impossible for past Congresses to withstand the political pressure of special interests and make the tough choices necessary to balance the budget. Clearly, the federal budget process is broken and needs fixing. As the experience in the states shows, balanced budget amendments work, and a federal Balanced Budget Amendment is the only way to guarantee the fiscal integrity of this nation and a solvent future for our children and grandchildren. Therefore, we call on you to exercise the courage and fiscal responsibility to stand up to the special interests who are willing to place their interests ahead of the nation's future.

We hope that the 105th Congress will make the Balanced Budget Amendment its first priority. The nation cannot afford to wait. The federal government cannot continue to borrow from future generations to pay for current consumption. If deficit spending is not curbed now, when it can be done sensibly and gradually, it will have to be done under desperate circumstances. The only way to ensure that programs like Social Security and Medicare are there for us and our children is to set a course of fiscal responsibility today.

As you may know, ALEC is the nation's largest bipartisan, individual membership association of state legislators, with nearly 3,000 members. ALEC is dedicated to the Jeffersonian principles of individual liberty, limited government and the free enterprise system. We believe that reducing the devastating \$5 trillion national debt is central to these principles and critical to the strength of the nation's economy.

The historic opportunity to provide a brighter, more prosperous future lies in your hands. We in the states are up to the challenge and ready to ratify the Balanced Budget Amendment. This is not about whether you are a Democrat or Republican or a liberal or conservative — this is about what you must do for the future of this great nation. It is up to you to make the right choice for this country, the fiscally responsible choice — pass a Balanced Budget Amendment.

Reply Fax (No Cover Sheet Necessary)

Please fax this form to ALEC at (202) 466-3801. If you do not have access to a fax machine, please call Karen O'Brien, Director of Tax & Fiscal Policy at ALEC at (202) 466-3800, ext. 237 and leave a message that you wish to have your name added to the above letter.

Please respond as soon as possible and before January 31, 1997

I hereby authorize you to add my name to the above letter in support of the Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment. I understand the letter will be published and sent to every Member of Congress and the President.

Signature: *Jeanette James*

Name (please print): JEANETTE JAMES

State: AK Rep. Sen. Delegate Assemblyman



ACTION ALERT

TO: ALL ALEC MEMBERS

FROM: Representative Bonnie Sue Cooper (R-Mo.)
ALEC National Chair

Speaker Bobby Hogue (D-Ark.)
ALEC First Vice Chairman

RE: 105TH CONGRESS: VOTE ON THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

An historic opportunity is upon us. We stand the best chance ever of passing the Balanced Budget Amendment in the new 105th Congress. Both the House and the Senate plan to move quickly in January 1997 on the Balanced Budget Amendment. Both chambers may debate and even vote on the amendment simultaneously, perhaps in February, to maximize national focus on the issue. ALEC and the 105th Congress need your help to guarantee a better economic future for this nation.

We are calling upon you to call or write your senators and representatives from your state and let them know of your support for passing the BBA this year. Also, we are asking for your signature on the attached letter from ALEC members to each member of Congress. **In addition, and most importantly, please share with your colleagues in the legislature the enclosed sample Resolution Requesting that the Balanced Budget Amendment to the U.S. Constitution be Submitted to the States for Ratification.** Passing this or a similar resolution in your state will send a strong, clear message to Congress that the federal government must adhere to the same standard that virtually every state and citizen in this country follows — balancing their budgets.

You must act today if you want to restore fiscal responsibility to our federal government and pass the Balanced Budget Amendment this year.

Again, please:

- ① Pass in your state legislature a resolution calling upon Congress to pass the Balanced Budget Amendment (see enclosed sample).
- ② Write or call your senators and representatives with your support for the BBA.
- ③ Fax the attached Reply Form to ALEC to add your name to ALEC's letter.

Thank you for your prompt action!

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HJR 16

Revision Date: 3/5/97 Dept. Affected: Governor
 Title: Support Fed. Balanced Budget Amendment BRU: _____
 Sponsor: Veppij Component: _____
 Requester: _____ COMPONENT SERIAL NO. _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
-----------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
-------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY97) cost: \$ _____

POSITIONS

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: B. Cottrell
 Division: Rep. Granda
 Approved by Commissioner: _____
 Agency: _____

Phone: 465-3743
 Date: 3/5/97
 Date: _____

PREPARER TO PROVIDE ALL DISTRIBUTION COPIES TO GOVERNOR'S LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

For further distribution information, call the Governor's Legislative Office