

By: Senator(s) Wiggins

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 533

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO PROPOSE AND SUBMIT  
2 TO THE STATES FOR RATIFICATION AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES  
3 CONSTITUTION PROVIDING FOR A BALANCED BUDGET.

4 WHEREAS, the gravity of federal debt and federal obligations  
5 was established early in American history, with deficit occurring  
6 only in relation to extraordinary circumstances, such as war; yet  
7 for much of the 20th century and into the 21st, the United States  
8 has operated on a budget deficit, including the 2021 budget year,  
9 which surpassed an astounding \$2.77 trillion, the second highest  
10 on record; and

11 WHEREAS, the higher the deficit, the more the government must  
12 spend on paying interest on the debt; compounding the problem is  
13 the use of deficit spending, which becomes a responsibility for  
14 future generations of Americans to assume without their consent;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Congress has attempted to set budgetary restraints  
17 for itself in the form of a balanced budget amendment; the



18 proposal won wide support in 1995, failing by only one vote in the  
19 Senate; and

20 WHEREAS, many states have previously requested that Congress  
21 propose a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget,  
22 but Congress has proven to be unresponsive; and

23 WHEREAS, this growing burden of public debt is a threat to  
24 the nation's economic health, and action must be taken to restore  
25 fiscal responsibility; a balanced budget amendment would require  
26 the government not to spend more than it receives in revenues and  
27 compel lawmakers to carefully consider choices about spending and  
28 taxes; by encouraging spending control and discouraging deficit  
29 spending, a balanced budget amendment will help put the nation on  
30 the path to lasting prosperity:

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
32 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
33 we do hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States  
34 to propose and submit to the states for ratification an amendment  
35 to the United States Constitution providing that, except during a  
36 war declared by the Congress of the United States pursuant to  
37 Article I, Section 8, Clause 11, United States Constitution, or  
38 other national emergency, the total of all federal appropriations  
39 for a fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated  
40 federal revenue for that fiscal year.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be  
42 transmitted by the Secretary of State, to the President of the



43 United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States  
44 House of Representatives, and to each member of the Mississippi  
45 congressional delegation.

