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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

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<http://www.house.gov/judiciary>

June 20, 2016

The Honorable Karen Haas  
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol, Room H154  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Florida, received by the House of Representatives in the year 1988, as purporting to be a rescission of a prior application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte  
Chairman

Jud

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Senate Memorial No. \_\_\_\_\_

1 A memorial to the Congress of the United  
 2 States, urging Congress to adopt a joint  
 3 resolution providing for an amendment to the  
 4 Constitution of the United States that requires  
 5 the federal budget to be in balance except  
 6 under specified emergency conditions and  
 7 withdrawing previous memorials to Congress on  
 8 this subject.  
 9

10  
 11 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida have  
 12 adopted, as a provision of their state constitution, the  
 13 requirement that the state government operate on the basis of  
 14 a balanced budget, and that requirement has proved of great  
 15 benefit to the state, and

16 WHEREAS, in 1976, responding to national concern over a  
 17 public debt which was then in excess of \$300 billion and the  
 18 existence of a \$43 billion federal deficit, the Florida  
 19 Legislature made application to the Congress of the United  
 20 States to call a constitutional convention to propose an  
 21 amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring a  
 22 balanced federal budget, and

23 WHEREAS, the national debt in 1986 exceeded \$1  
 24 trillion, and the estimated 1987 fiscal deficit is now  
 25 approximately \$173.2 billion, and

26 WHEREAS, what was a national concern in 1976 has, in  
 27 1988, become a national crisis, and

28 WHEREAS, this condition of our national fiscal policy  
 29 threatens the security of our nation, and

30 WHEREAS, the threat to the security of our nation has  
 31 become so imminent that we can no longer afford the time and

1 expense of a constitutional convention to propose and debate a  
2 solution to the crisis that is self-evident, and

3 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United  
4 States provides for the proposal of amendments to the  
5 Constitution of the United States by two-thirds concurrence of  
6 the members of both Houses of Congress, and

7 WHEREAS, We should each and every one demand of our  
8 U.S. Senators and Congressmen that such an amendment be  
9 introduced in both houses of the Congress and that the elected  
10 Florida delegation lead the fight to bring about the proposal  
11 of this critically important constitutional amendment, NOW,  
12 THEREFORE,

13  
14 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15  
16 That the Congress of the United States is urged to  
17 adopt, without delay, a joint resolution providing for an  
18 amendment to the Constitution of the United States that  
19 requires the federal budget to be in balance except under  
20 specified emergency conditions.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United  
22 States is urged to take appropriate and immediate action to  
23 continue to bring the federal budget into balance and to cause  
24 the reduction of the outstanding national debt in the  
25 foreseeable future.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this memorial supersedes  
27 all previous memorials applying to the Congress of the United  
28 States to call a convention to propose an amendment to the  
29 Constitution of the United States to require a balanced  
30 federal budget, including Senate Memorial No. 234 and House  
31

1 Memorial No. 2801, both passed in 1976, and that such previous  
2 memorials are hereby revoked and withdrawn.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be  
4 dispatched to the presiding officers of the Senate and the  
5 House of Representatives of Congress and the members of the  
6 Congressional delegation from the State of Florida.

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9 Filed in Office Secretary of State May 31, 1988.

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