

HJRES 12

Proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Economics and Public Finance

Introduced: Jan 9, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (Jan 12, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-joint-resolution/12>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Byrne, Bradley [R-AL-1]

Party: Republican • **State:** AL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (3 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Brat, Dave [R-VA-7] | R · VA | | Feb 12, 2016 |
| Rep. Loudermilk, Barry [R-GA-11] | R · GA | | Feb 25, 2016 |
| Rep. Ribble, Reid J. [R-WI-8] | R · WI | | Mar 15, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | Jan 12, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Economics and Public Finance

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| 114 HJRES 93 | Related bill | May 17, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 86 | Related bill | Apr 28, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 SJRES 6 | Related bill | Mar 16, 2016: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held. |
| 114 HJRES 79 | Related bill | Jan 15, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 41 | Related bill | Apr 21, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 28 | Related bill | Feb 19, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 17 | Related bill | Jan 22, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 1 | Identical bill | Jan 12, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 2 | Related bill | Jan 12, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |
| 114 HJRES 7 | Related bill | Jan 12, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. |

Constitutional Amendment

This joint resolution proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting total outlays for a fiscal year from exceeding total receipts for that fiscal year unless Congress authorizes the excess by a three-fifths roll call vote of each chamber. The prohibition excludes outlays for repayment of debt principal and receipts derived from borrowing.

The amendment prohibits total outlays for any fiscal year from exceeding one-fifth of the economic output of the United States, unless two-thirds of each house of Congress provides for a specific increase above this amount.

The amendment requires a three-fifths roll call vote of each chamber of Congress to increase the public debt limit or to increase revenue. It also requires the President to submit a balanced budget to Congress annually.

Congress is authorized to waive these requirements when a declaration of war is in effect or if the United States is engaged in a military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 12, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Jan 9, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 9, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.