

SJRES 2

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that the Federal budget be balanced.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Economics and Public Finance

Introduced: Jan 6, 2015

Current Status: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held. (Mar 16, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/2>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]

Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Jan 12, 2015
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Jan 21, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Mar 16, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Economics and Public Finance

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HJRES 85	Related bill	Mar 3, 2016: Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
114 HJRES 8	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 or 18% of the U.S. gross domestic product unless Congress authorizes the excess by a two-thirds vote of each chamber. The prohibition excludes outlays for repayment of debt principal and receipts derived from borrowing.

The amendment requires a two-thirds vote of each chamber of Congress to levy a new tax, increase the rate of any tax, or increase the debt limit.

The amendment provides any Member of Congress with standing and a cause of action to seek judicial enforcement of this amendment if authorized by a petition signed by one-third of the Members of either house of Congress. Courts are prohibited from ordering any increase in revenue to enforce this amendment.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 16, 2016:** Committee on the Judiciary. Hearings held.
- **Jan 6, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 6, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.