

HJRES 93

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: May 10, 2016

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (May 17, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-joint-resolution/93>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gohmert, Louie [R-TX-1]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4] | R · IA | | May 12, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | May 17, 2016 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Economics and Public Finance

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| 114 HJRES 1 | Related 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. |
| 114 HJRES 12 | 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 or 18.5% of the economic output of the United States for the fiscal year. The prohibition excludes outlays for repayment of debt principal and receipts derived from borrowing.

The amendment requires a three-fourths roll call vote of each chamber of Congress to increase the public debt limit or revenue.

It also requires the President to submit a balanced budget to Congress annually and specifies that the failure to do so will be considered an impeachable offense.

Congress may waive these requirements when: (1) a declaration of war is in effect, or (2) the United States is engaged in a military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security that has been declared by a joint resolution. Waivers must identify and be limited to the excess that is necessary for a year due to the identified military conflict.

Actions Timeline

- **May 17, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **May 10, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **May 10, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.