SJRES 7

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

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Economics and Public Finance
Introduced: Jan 24, 2017
Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 24, 2017)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-joint-resolution/7

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]
Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Jan 24, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 24, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Economics and Public Finance

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HJRES 29	Related bill	**Jan 31, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Summary   (as of Jan 24, 2017)

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

- **Jan 24, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 24, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.