

HJRES 40

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring that the Federal budget be balanced.

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Economics and Public Finance

Introduced: Jan 30, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. (Jan 30, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-joint-resolution/40>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Loudermilk, Barry [R-GA-11]

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

Cosponsors (10 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9] | R · GA | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4] | R · TN | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9] | R · VA | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Hern, Kevin [R-OK-1] | R · OK | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Hice, Jody B. [R-GA-10] | R · GA | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Mooney, Alexander X. [R-WV-2] | R · WV | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Riggleman, Denver [R-VA-5] | R · VA | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Weber, Randy K., Sr. [R-TX-14] | R · TX | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Wright, Ron [R-TX-6] | R · TX | | Jan 30, 2019 |
| Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3] | R · SC | | Jan 28, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Judiciary Committee | House | Referred to | Jan 30, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Economics and Public Finance

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 116 SJRES 5 | Related bill | Jan 24, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. |

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 30, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 30, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.
- **Jan 30, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.