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THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

Joint Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Title: DELEGATE RESOLUTION

Instructions to Delegates at the “Balanced Budget Amendment Convention” which was Called  
by the State of \_\_\_\_\_’s Legislature in Joint Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

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WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States guarantees to every State a Republican form of government that gives each State equal standing when calling for a Federal Amendment Convention. Article V of the Constitution of the United States reserves to the State Legislatures the right to Call for a Federal Convention for the purpose of *proposing amendments* to the United States Constitution when Congress, the Courts, and/or the Executive Branch refuse to address an egregious wrong suffered by the people; and

WHEREAS, The State Legislatures *alone* have the authority to “limit” the agenda and authority of Delegates and/or Alternates (hereafter referred to as “*Delegates*”) they send to a convened Federal Convention. This authority does not reside in the United States Congress, nor in the Federal or State Courts nor in the Executive Branch. This authority resides solely in State Legislatures.

WHEREAS, The authority of Congress, under Article V of the United States Constitution, requires it to convene a Convention as Called for and defined by the State Legislatures of the Several States; and

WHEREAS, The “*Delegates*” sent by the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature to the *Balanced Budget Amendment Convention* (hereafter referred to as “*Convention*”) are Ambassadors of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ and required to fulfill the Commission assigned to them by the Legislature of \_\_\_\_\_. They are not free agents. They are empowered only to complete the terms and conditions defined in this *Delegate Resolution* (hereafter referred to as “*Resolution*”).

WHEREAS, \_\_\_\_\_’s State Legislature hereby defines the duties and limits the authority of its *Delegates* at the *Convention* in this *Resolution*;

*Resolved by the Legislature of \_\_\_\_\_;*

The State of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby authorizes that *Delegates* be summoned and appointed to participate at the convened *Convention* according to the terms and conditions set forth in this *Resolution*.

The number and qualifications of Delegates (or Alternates if authorized) to be sent to the convened *Convention* will be decided by the State Legislature after the United States Congress summons Delegates from the State of \_\_\_\_\_ to the convened *Convention*.

1. The Legislature of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ can add to, replace or remove any Delegate or Alternate if in its sole discretion such action is necessary.
2. Alternates will have no official role at the *Convention* and can attend the *Convention* only if the State Delegations at the *Convention* vote to allow their attendance and/or the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature appoints an Alternate to take the place of a Delegate at the *Convention*.
3. The State of \_\_\_\_\_ reserves to itself the right to alter and change this *Resolution* if in its sole discretion such action is necessary. *Delegates* will be bound by any such alteration or change to this *Resolution*.

The Legislature of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby instructs and authorizes its Delegates at the *Convention* to vote to send the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written in Section E, back to the States for ratification via the United States Congress. \_\_\_\_\_’s Delegates are prohibited to vote for any alternate Amendment or modified version of the *Balanced Budget Amendment* that might be introduced at the *Convention* and they are hereby instructed to do all in their power at the *Convention* to secure a vote that approves sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment* back to the States for ratification.

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The Legislature of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ will not vote to ratify any alternate Amendment or modified version of the *Balanced Budget Amendment* that may be sent to it for ratification via Congress by the *Convention*. Only the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, will be considered by the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature for ratification.

The Legislature of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ upon the enactment of this *Resolution*, will select and appoint three members to the Delegate Credential Committee (hereafter referred to as *Committee*). The *Committee* will have the responsibility and requisite authority to perform each of its assigned duties (charges) described in SECTION A.

1. *Committee* members can be added to, replaced or removed if in the sole discretion of the State Legislature such action is necessary.
2. Each member of the *Committee* is required to take the following oath and sign a Pledge Document confirming that the oath has been taken and agreed to. The following oath shall be administered by Leadership in the House and/or Senate:

“I pledge to follow the instructions and charges in this *Resolution* and any other directives given to me by the State of \_\_\_\_\_’s Legislature from the date I am appointed to the *Committee* and during the full term of the *Convention* to the best of my abilities so help me God.”

### SECTION A. DUTIES OF THE “DELEGATE CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE”

*Committee* members shall follow the directives in this *Resolution* and any supplemental instructions from the State Legislature.

The *Committee* will have the requisite authority to remove or replace any Delegate or Alternate if, in its sole discretion, such action is necessary.

The “*Committee*” is charged with the following duties:

1. Decide all matters among *Committee* members with a simple majority vote.
2. Function as the official facilitator for the State Legislature as required in this *Resolution*.
3. Appoint *Delegates* to the *Convention* who the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature has summoned and authorized.
4. Appoint one likeminded Delegate to serve as the Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_’s State Delegation and to be the Spokesman for the State Delegation at the *Convention*.
5. Appoint one Delegate to serve as the Assistant Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_’s State Delegation and to be the Spokesman in the absence of the Chairman.
6. Issue to each certified Delegate and/or Alternate (including the Chairman and Assistant Chairman) a Certification Certificate after they have satisfactorily:
  - a. Met the requisite qualifications established by the State Legislature,
  - b. Taken the applicable oath in Item 9. of Section A., and
  - c. Confirmed their oath by signing a separate Pledge Document
7. Issue to each Certified Delegate and/or Alternate (including the Chairman and Assistant Chairman) a “Convention Pass” that will authorize their admission and participation at the *Convention*.
8. Notify the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature of the financial or other needs the \_\_\_\_\_ State Delegation has at the *Convention*.
9. Administer the following oaths to the applicable candidate before issuing Certifications:

#### DELEGATES

“I pledge to follow the instructions in this *Delegate Resolution* and any other directive given to me by the *Delegate Credential Committee* or the State of \_\_\_\_\_’s Legislature, whether such directive is given to me directly or indirectly, from the time I am certified by the *Committee* to be a Delegate and during the full term of the *Balanced Budget Amendment Convention*, to the best of my abilities so help me God.”

#### ALTERNATES

“I pledge to follow the instructions in this *Delegate Resolution* and any other directive given to me by the *Delegate Credential Committee* or the State of \_\_\_\_\_’s Legislature, whether such directive given to me directly or indirectly, from the time I am certified by the *Committee* to be an Alternate and during the full term of the *Balanced Budget Amendment Convention* to the best of my abilities so help me God.”

Joint Delegate Resolution by the Legislature of the State of \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIRMAN OF \_\_\_\_\_'S STATE DELEGATION

"I pledge to follow the instructions in this *Delegate Resolution* and any other directive given to me by the *Delegate Credential Committee* or the State of \_\_\_\_\_'s Legislature, from the time I am certified by the *Committee* to be the Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation and during the full term of the *Balanced Budget Amendment Convention*, to the best of my abilities so help me God."

ASSISTANT CHAIRMAN OF \_\_\_\_\_'S STATE DELEGATION

"I pledge to follow the instructions in this *Delegate Resolution* and any other directive given to me by the *Delegate Credential Committee* or the State of \_\_\_\_\_'s Legislature, whether given to me directly or indirectly, from the time I am certified by the *Committee* to be the Assistant Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation and during the full term of the *Balanced Budget Amendment Convention*, to the best of my abilities so help me God."

10. Monitor the activities of \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation.
11. Keep close communications with the Chairman and Assistant Chairman and provide needed assistance when requested.
  - a. When possible inform the Chairman and Assistant Chairman which States at the *Convention* have enacted a *Resolution* similar to this one for their *Delegates*.
  - b. Report to the State Legislature periodically which States at the *Convention* have enacted a *Resolution* similar to this one for their *Delegates*.
12. Monitor the activities, deliberations and all votes by the States at the *Convention*.
13. Make periodic reports and provide in depth analysis to the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature regarding the events at the *Convention*.
  - a. Include reports and recommendations on upcoming votes at the *Convention*.
  - b. Include an analysis of the prospects for the pre-drafted *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, being approved by the *Convention* and sent to the States for ratification.
  - c. Include problems and successes that have or are likely to occur before a vote by the *Convention* is taken to send the *Balanced Budget Amendment* to the States for ratification.
  - d. Make appropriate recommendations to the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature on what further action is needed by the Delegates and/or the State Legislature to assure a favorable vote by the *Convention* for the *Balanced Budget Amendment*.
14. The *Committee* shall have the authority to determine if a Delegate or Alternate violated the provisions of this *Resolution* and to decide if the Delegate's "Credentials" should be invalidated. The *Committee*'s decision will be final and there will be no appeal.
  - a. A Delegate who has had his "Credentials" invalidated shall immediately forfeit all right to represent the State of \_\_\_\_\_ at the *Convention* and immediately be dismissed as a Delegate in \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation. His/her Certification as a Delegate and *Convention* Pass will be cancelled. He/she will have no further authorization to participate at any events at the *Convention*.

## SECTION B. DUTIES OF THE CHAIRMAN OF \_\_\_\_\_'S STATE DELEGATION

The Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_s State Delegation will be required to follow the directives in this *Resolution* and others that may be issued, from time to time, by the "Committee" or by the State Legislature.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF \_\_\_\_\_'S CHAIRMAN

The Chairman is charged with completing the following:

1. Join with other State Delegations to open the *Convention* for business.
2. Make certain that there is always at least one Delegate from \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation at every business meeting and roll call at the *Convention*.
  - a. If the Delegate is not the assigned Spokesman, then authorize the Delegate to cast ballots in the Spokesman's absence according to the terms and provisions of this *Resolution*.
  - b. The \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation must always have at least one likeminded Delegate during all business meetings and roll calls at the *Convention*.
3. Distribute to all *Delegates* from \_\_\_\_\_ a pocket size copy of the United States Constitution.

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4. Instruct Delegates of the mandate in Article IV, Section 4 of the United States Constitution that guarantees to each State a Republican form of government which gives each State equal standing when Calling for a *Convention* and when voting at and organizing a *Convention*.
5. Work closely with Chairman from other State Delegations to find mutual agreement on the objectives in this *Resolution*.
6. Assign to \_\_\_\_\_'s Delegates the following duties:
  - a. Divide the number of Delegates in the of 50 State Delegations at the *Convention* by the number of \_\_\_\_\_'s Delegates. Assign to each of \_\_\_\_\_'s Delegates a proportionate number of Delegates from other State Delegations for the purpose of gaining consensus and agreement among the State Delegations that the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, should be sent to the States for ratification.
7. Build a consensus between at least 26 State Delegations at the "*Convention*" to:
  - a. Require a simple majority vote at all roll calls to decide any and all matters brought before the *Convention*, including the question of whether the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, should be sent to the States for ratification.
  - b. Require that each State Delegation at the *Convention* has only one vote regardless of the number of Delegates in a State Delegation or the population of a State (Article IV, 4 U.S. Constitution).
  - c. Nominate and install *Convention* Officials who -
    1. Come from a State that has passed this *Resolution* for their Delegates, and
    2. Who agree with sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, to the States for ratification.
  - d. Require a quorum of 26 State Delegations before business can be conducted and before a vote can be taken to decide any and all matters that may be presented at the *Convention*.
  - e. Build a consensus of at least 26 State Delegations to work together for the mutual goal of sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, back to the State for ratification.
  - f. Build a consensus of at least 26 State Delegations that agree that the deliberations at the *Convention* are to be terminated by the end of 180 days from the date it is convened, unless the *Convention* votes to extend the termination date by 180 days. No other extensions are to be allowed.
8. The United States Constitution in Article IV, Section 4 guarantees to each State a Republican form of government which gives each State equal standing when Calling for an Amendment *Convention* and when voting for proposed Amendments at a *Convention*, regardless of the State's population or number of Delegates sent to a *Convention*.
9. Further duties of \_\_\_\_\_'s Chairman:
  - a. Work with at least 26 other States to require that the *Convention* be organized in such a way that each State has one vote on all matters brought to the *Convention* floor for a vote.
  - b. Cast \_\_\_\_\_'s vote to require "One" vote per State Delegation.
  - c. Nominate a candidate to be President of the *Convention* who comes from \_\_\_\_\_'s Delegation (if possible).
  - d. If necessary call for a vote for a candidate to be President who is likeminded and comes from a State that has enacted this *Resolution*, whether or not you nominated the candidate to be President.
  - e. Do all in your power to avoid the nomination of a President who does not come from a State that did not pass this *Resolution*.
    - i. If the State Delegations choose a President who does not come from a State that did not pass this *Resolution*, then continue in your deliberations at the *Convention* with the determination to honor the instructions in this *Resolution*.
  - f. Assuming the elected President comes from the State of \_\_\_\_\_ or from a State that has passed this *Resolution*, his/her duties shall be:
    - i. Securing a vote from the State Delegations requiring that this *Resolution* be the "Rules of Order" at the *Convention*
      - ("Robert's Rules of Order" can be adopted to carry on deliberations at the *Convention* if they do not conflict with this *Resolution*).
    - ii. Following the terms, directives and requirements in this *Resolution*.
    - iii. Staying focused on the purpose the \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature had when authorizing a Call on Congress to convene the *Balanced Budget Amendment Convention* which is to decide if the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as here in written in Section E, should be sent to the States for ratification.
    - iv. Providing Security measures as may be needed at the "*Convention*".
    - v. Prohibiting weapons or objects that can be construed as weapons from entering the *Convention*.
    - vi. Officiating the nomination and installation of all Officers at the "*Convention*".
    - vii. Establishing the agenda at the "*Convention*" as defined in this "*Resolution*".
    - viii. Providing equal time for all States whether for or against sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment* to the States for ratification.

- ix. Prohibiting the introduction at the “Convention” of any subject matter or issue other than matters relating to the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, and if it should be sent to the States for ratification.
- x. Expediting deliberations by the State Delegations and preventing unnecessary delays.
- xi. As quickly as possible, allow a roll call for the State Delegations to decide if the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, should be sent to the States via Congress for ratification.
- xii. Authorizing appropriate roll calls at the “Convention”.
- xiii. Denying all efforts to introduce other Amendments to the *Convention*, including any modification(s) or alteration(s), of any kind, to the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written.
- xiv. Settling disputes.
- xv. Terminating the *Convention* Credentials of any Delegate, including *Convention* Officials, for violating the terms of this *Resolution* or for causing Security problems at the *Convention*.
- xvi. Establishing procedures for installing and recognizing Alternates who are to become Delegates.
- xvii. Closing the deliberations at the “Convention” after the final votes are taken that will decide if the *Balanced Budget Amendment* should be sent to the States for ratification and by which mode of ratification the *Convention* is proposing to Congress.
- xviii. Reporting to the United States Congress, the 50 State Legislatures and the media the decision of the *Convention* regarding sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment* to the States for ratification and the *Convention*’s recommendation to Congress as to which mode of ratification should be followed.
- xix. Making formal requests to the State Legislatures, through representatives in the 50 State Delegations, for monies that will be needed to carry on the business of the “Convention”.
- xx. Requiring that the “Convention” be closed to all media and news groups. Only delegates appointed by their State Legislatures, security screened suppliers, security staff, custodial staff and personnel who are needed for carrying out the business of the “Convention” are to be given security passes and permitted into the “Convention”.
- xxi. If a candidate for President of the Convention wins the Presidency and he does not come from a State that has enacted this *Resolution*, then it is the Duty of the Chairman and the Delegates in the . . . . . State Delegation to use every means at their disposal to influence a favorable vote by the *Convention* to send the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, to the States for ratification.
  - The Chairman and \_\_\_\_\_’s State Delegation, in such a case, are still required to follow the directives in this *Resolution* to the best of their abilities.
- xxii. Follow the procedures above (Section 8. through 8.e,i) for electing a Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or other officer as the Convention deems necessary. The President shall be responsible to define the duties for each office in accordance to the requirements of this *Resolution*.
- xxiii. If the Chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_ State Delegation has not succeeded in securing a favorable vote to require a quorum of 26 States in order to conduct business, then introduce this quorum requirement to the Convention floor for a vote. Call for a vote on the *Convention* floor that would require any and all matters brought before the “Convention” to be decided with a majority vote with each State Delegation having one vote. Follow the applicable procedures in “Section B. Duties and Responsibilities of the \_\_\_\_\_’s Chairman”.
  - Cast \_\_\_\_\_’s vote to require a quorum of 26 States.
- xxiv. Call for a vote requiring each State Delegation to appoint one Delegate to be their Spokesman.
  - Cast \_\_\_\_\_’s vote to require each State Delegation to appoint one Delegate to be their Spokesman.
- xxv. Call for a vote, at the appropriate time, to decide if the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, should be sent to the States for ratification via Congress.
  - Cast \_\_\_\_\_’s vote requiring that the *Balanced Budget Amendment* be sent to the States for ratification.
- xxvi. Assuming the *Convention* votes to send the *Balanced Budget Amendment* to the States for ratification, call for another vote to decide which method of ratification the *Convention* recommends to Congress, whether by State Legislatures or State Conventions.
  - Cast \_\_\_\_\_’s vote to recommend to Congress that the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, be ratified by State Legislatures and not State Conventions.
- xxvii. Oppose any efforts by State Delegations to modify, alter or change in any way the wording, punctuation, sections and spelling of the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written.
- xxviii. Oppose any efforts by State Delegations to offer any other Amendment to the Constitution at the *Convention* other than the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written.

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- xxix. Organize \_\_\_\_\_'s Delegates at the *Convention* and assign to each specific duties with instructions for carrying out the objectives and purposes in this "*Resolution*" and directives that may, from time to time, come from the "*Committee*" or State Legislature:
  - xxx. Assign to Delegates from \_\_\_\_\_ the following responsibilities:
    - Work with and gain consensus from other State Delegations for the purpose of securing their agreement that the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, should be sent to the States for ratification.
    - Report to the Chairman the number of other States that plan to vote in favor of the *Balanced Budget Amendment*.
    - Report to the Chairman any problems or opportunities that may have or might develop relating to the directives in this "*Resolution*".
  - xxxi. Be amenable to both the "*Committee*" and \_\_\_\_\_ State Legislature.
10. The Chairman is bound to vote at the *Convention* as directed in this *Resolution*.
  11. Conduct frequent meetings with \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegates to review, analyze and report on the work being accomplished at the *Convention*.
    - a. Establish plans to correct problems and to advance the objective which is to secure a favorable vote by the *Convention* to send the *Balanced Budget Amendment* to the States for ratification.
  12. Make regular reports to the *Committee* regarding all activities at the *Convention*.
  13. Notify the *Committee* of financial or other needs the \_\_\_\_\_ State Delegation has at the *Convention*.

### SECTION C. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF "DELEGATES"

The Delegates of \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation will be required to follow the directives in this "*Resolution*" and others that may be issued, from time to time, by the "*Committee*" or by the State Legislature.

Each Delegate is charged with the following:

1. Be amenable to and follow the instructions of the Chairman and Assistant Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation.
2. Be amenable to the President of the *Convention*.
3. Work to advance all the requirements and directives in this *Resolution*.
4. Be subject to dismissal from the \_\_\_\_\_ State Delegation for violation of this *Resolution*.
5. The Delegate is bound by this *Resolution* to vote at all \_\_\_\_\_ State Delegation roll calls consistent with directives given to the Chairman in Section B., which includes sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, to the States for ratification via Congress.
6. Attend all assigned business sessions at the *Convention*.
7. Help the Chairman to successfully complete each of the objectives in Section B.
8. Attend all meetings scheduled by the Chairman:
  - a. Report to the Chairman the results of your work among other State Delegates.
  - a. Assess and report to the Chairman the number of States that plan to vote in favor of the *Balanced Budget Amendment*.
  - b. Assess and report to the Chairman any problems or opportunities that may have or might develop relating to the purposes of this "*Resolution*".
  - c. Recommend to the Chairman other strategies that may help \_\_\_\_\_ join with at least 26 other States to vote for the *Balanced Budget Amendment* at the "*Convention*".

### SECTION D. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF "ALTERNATES"

The Alternates of \_\_\_\_\_'s State Delegation will be required to follow the directives in this "*Resolution*" and others that may be issued, from time to time, by the *Committee* or by the State Legislature.

Each Alternate is charged with:

1. Being ready to become a Delegate if directed to do so by the "*Committee*" or State Legislature.
2. Fulfill the duties in Section C. when appointed as a Delegate.
3. When appointed to be a Delegate, work to advance all the requirements and directives in this "*Resolution*".
4. Be subject to dismissal from the \_\_\_\_\_ State Delegation for violation of this "*Resolution*".

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5. When appointed to be a Delegate, the Delegate is bound by this “*Resolution*” to vote at roll calls consistent with directives given to the Chairman in Section B., which includes sending the *Balanced Budget Amendment*, as herein written, to the States for ratification via Congress.
6. Follow the instructions given to you by the Chairman or Assistant Chairman of \_\_\_\_\_’s State Delegation, the *Committee* or State Legislature.
7. When appointed to be a Delegate, attend all assigned business sessions at the *Convention*.
8. When appointed to be a Delegate, help the Chairman to successfully complete each of the objectives in Section B.
9. When appointed to be a Delegate, attend all meetings scheduled by the Chairman:
  - a. Report results of your work among other State Delegates.
  - d. Assess and report to the Chairman the number of States that plan to vote in favor of the *Balanced Budget Amendment*.
  - e. Assess and report to the Chairman any problems or opportunities that may have or might develop relating to the purposes of this *Resolution*.
  - f. Recommend to the Chairman other strategies that may help \_\_\_\_\_ join with at least 26 other States to vote for the *Balanced Budget Amendment* at the “*Convention*”.

SECTION E. TEXT FOR THE BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT

The exact text for the *Balanced Budget Amendment* (including the wording, paragraphs, Section headings, spelling and punctuations) that is to be sent to the State Legislatures, via Congress, for ratification shall read as follows:

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Text of proposed

**BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT**

ARTICLE 28 (or alternate number to be assigned by Congress)

**Section 1.** It is the right of citizens to enjoy a fiscally sound and debt free federal government which is foundational to a free people and must not be violated by the State.

**Section 2.** It is hereby mandated that the United States Congress will conduct the fiscal affairs of the United States Government according to the requirements of this Article.

**Section 3.** A Balanced Budget consists of accurately assigning the sum of all federal receipts (which includes all tax revenues and all other sources of government income) to pay for all Federal expenditures within the current year and with the mandate not to allow expenditures to exceed revenue and income. The following exceptions apply:

1. In time of war or national emergency the United States Congress can authorize expenditures to exceed income and revenue as is required to protect the interests and security of the United States and its citizens. However, the United States Congress is required to amortize the repayment of any debt incurred over a maximum of ten years from the end of the war or national emergency. The United States Congress is prohibited from extending the repayment of the debt beyond ten years which includes the repayment of monies borrowed and any interest and other costs that may have accrued in order to service said debt. Congress can repay the debt, in full, in less than ten years, but must pay no less than 1/10th of the original amount owed by the Government, including interest and other costs, in each remaining year of the ten year term, unless the balance is less than 1/10th of the original amount.
2. The United States Congress is authorized to allow expenditures to exceed revenues and income when in the collective wisdom of two thirds of the members of both Houses of the United States Congress it is necessary to do so. However, the United States Congress is required to amortize the repayment of any debt incurred over a maximum of five years from the date said debt was authorized by Congress. The United States Congress is prohibited from extending the repayment of said debt beyond five years which includes the repayment of monies borrowed and any interest and other costs that may have accrued in order to service said debt. Congress can repay the debt, in full, in less than five years, but must pay no less than 1/5th of the original amount owed by the Government, including interest and other costs, in each remaining year of the five year term, unless the balance is less than 1/5th of the original amount.

**Section 4.** The United States Congress is prohibited from taking any debt that may remain from previous year deficits and include it as part of a new deficit expenditure in current or future years. The repayment of any previous years debt, as defined in Section 3 and Section 6., is a Federal expenditure to be repaid as part of a Balanced budget in a current year and/or future year(s) as

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mandated in this Article.

**Section 5.** It is further prohibited for the United States Congress to extend the repayment of any and all debt incurred beyond the time lines required in this Article.

**Section 6.** All current debt owed by the United State Government at the time this Article is ratified, including accrued interest and other costs to service said debt, must be repaid by the United States Congress within 20 years from the date this Article is ratified by the several States. Congress can repay the current debt, in full, in less than twenty years, but must pay no less than 1/20th of the original amount owed by the Government, including interest and other costs, in each remaining year of the 20 year term, unless the balance is less than 1/20th of the original amount.

**Section 7.** To secure the rights of citizens to enjoy a fiscally sound and debt free federal government, which is foundational to a free people, it is hereby prohibited for the United States Congress to allow federal expenditures to exceed federal revenue and income, in any given year, as mandated by the requirements and allowances of this Article.

**Section 8.** Any elected or non-elected government official, or any non-government individual or organization, who intentionally obstructs or prevents the implementation of any provision in this Article shall have committed a criminal offense and shall be subject to impeachment (when applicable) and criminal prosecution and upon conviction serve up to five years in prison.

**Section 9.** Individual States shall have authority to prosecute violators of this Article under State laws in the absence of Federal prosecution after 90 days from the date of the alleged violation. Multiple prosecutions, by multiple States, for the same alleged crime are prohibited.

**Section 10.** This Article shall be immediately enforceable upon the United States Congress when ratified by the State Legislatures of three quarters of the several States.

\_\_\_\_\_

*Resolved*, That the Clerk forward a copy of this signed Agreement to the Leadership in the State Legislatures of every State that has likewise approved a similar *Resolution* for their Delegates.

This "Resolution" is hereby entered into and approved by the Legislature of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ on this date:

Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Day: \_\_\_\_\_, Year: \_\_\_\_\_ .

Authorized Signatures with Titles:

Seal of the State of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_