

# State of South Dakota

SEVENTY-SECOND SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1997

345A0530

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Introduced by: Senators Staggers, Albers, Benson, Daugaard, Drake, Dunn (Jim), Everist, Hainje, Halverson, Ham, Hunhoff, Hutmacher, Johnson (William), Kleven, Lange, Munson (David), Reedy, Rounds, Shoener, Thompson, Vitter, and Whiting and Representatives Wick, Brosz, Cutler, Diedrich, Duenwald, Duniphan, Eccarius, Fischer-Clemens, Fitzgerald, Hassard, Kazmerzak, Konold, Lee, Lucas, Madden, McNenny, Monroe, Moore, Napoli, Pederson (Gordon), Peterson (Bill), Roe, Rost, Schrempp, Weber, Wetz, and Windhorst

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the passage of a balanced budget amendment to the  
2 United States Constitution.

3 WHEREAS, the annual federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and the federal  
4 public debt is now more than five trillion dollars - or twenty thousand dollars for every man,  
5 woman, and child in America; and

6 WHEREAS, continued deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both  
7 the federal executive and legislative branches to spend no more than available revenues; and

8 WHEREAS, fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level is lowering our standard of living,  
9 destroying jobs, and endangering economic opportunity now and for the next generation; and

10 WHEREAS, the federal government's unlimited ability to borrow raises questions about  
11 fundamental principles and responsibilities of government, with potentially profound  
12 consequences for the nation and its People, making it an appropriate subject for limitation by the  
13 Constitution of the United States; and

1       WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States vests the ultimate responsibility to approve  
2 or disapprove constitutional amendments with the People, as represented by their elected State  
3 Legislatures; and opposition by a small minority repeatedly has thwarted the will of the People  
4 that a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution should be submitted to the States for  
5 ratification:

6       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Seventy-second Legislature  
7 of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the Congress  
8 of the United States expeditiously pass, and propose to the Legislatures of the several States for  
9 ratification, an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring in the absence of  
10 a national emergency that the total of all federal appropriations made by the Congress for any  
11 fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year; and

12       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
13 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United  
14 States, and each Member of the South Dakota Congressional Delegation.