

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

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By: Senators Boozer, Derr, Colburn, Craig, Ferguson, Hafer, Haines, Hogan, Madden, McCabe, Middlebrooks, Munson, Neall, Roesser, and Stoltzfus

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1997

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Balanced Budget Amendment - Ratification**

3 FOR the purpose of ratifying the Balanced Budget Amendment to the United States
4 Constitution.

5 WHEREAS, The United States Congress has failed to enact a balanced budget
6 since 1969 and has no statutory or constitutional requirement to do so; and

7 WHEREAS, Congress continues to spend far beyond its means as reflected in a
8 national debt of over \$4.8 trillion or \$19,000 for every man, woman, and child in America;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, 49 of 50 states have recognized the necessity in requiring a balanced
11 budget in order to preserve and maintain the economic viability of their respective
12 jurisdictions; and

13 WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland has already expressed its desire
14 for a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution by the passage of
15 Joint Resolution 77 of 1975; and

16 WHEREAS, After long years of effort by many individuals throughout the United
17 States and the hard work of members of Congress from both political parties, a Balanced
18 Budget Amendment to the United States Constitution (HJR 1/SJR 1) has been passed
19 and sent to the states for ratification; now, therefore, be it

20 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That the
21 General Assembly of Maryland hereby ratifies House Joint Resolution 1/Senate Joint
22 Resolution 1, the Balanced Budget Amendment, as a part of the Constitution of the
23 United States; and be it further

24 **RESOLVED**, That the Governor of Maryland is requested to forward authentic
25 copies of this Resolution, under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, to the Secretary
26 of State of the United States, the Presiding Officer of the Senate of the United States, the
27 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Administrator of General Services of
28 the United States.