

Fifty-fifth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

Introduced by

Representatives Freier, Timm, Wilkie

Senators Christmann, Goetz, Kinnoin

1 A concurrent resolution requesting that a balanced budget amendment to the United States
2 Constitution be submitted to the states for ratification.

3 **WHEREAS**, the annual federal budget has not been balanced since 1969 and the
4 federal public debt is now more than \$5,000,000,000,000, which is approximately \$20,000 for
5 every man, woman, and child in the United States; and

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

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

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

15 **WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the United States vest the ultimate responsibility to
16 approve or disapprove constitutional amendments with the people, as represented by their
17 elected state legislative bodies;

18 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
19 **OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:**

20 That the Congress of the United States expeditiously pass, and propose to the
21 legislative bodies of the several states for ratification, an amendment to the Constitution of the
22 United States requiring in the absence of a national emergency that the total of all federal
23 appropriations made by the Congress for any fiscal year may not exceed the total of all
24 estimated federal revenues for that fiscal year; and

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of State forward copies of this
2 resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States
3 House of Representatives, each member of the North Dakota Congressional Delegation, and
4 the Secretary of State and the presiding officers of each legislative body in each of the other
5 49 states.