

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-0649.02 Ed DeCecco x4216

SJR17-044

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lundberg,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-044

101 **CONCERNING PARTICIPATION IN A PLANNING CONVENTION FOR AN**
102 **ARTICLE V CONVENTION FOR PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET**
103 **AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.**

1 WHEREAS, The national debt and mounting deficits are an
2 existential threat to the solvency, security, and prosperity of the United
3 States; and

4 WHEREAS, Congress has increased the total national debt every
5 year since 1957; and

6 WHEREAS, Under Article V of the United States Constitution,
7 Congress shall call a convention of the states for proposing amendments
8 to the constitution on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of
9 the states; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 WHEREAS, In 1978, the Colorado General Assembly
2 memorialized Congress to call a constitutional convention for the specific
3 and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the federal
4 constitution prohibiting deficit spending except under conditions
5 specified in the amendment; and

6 WHEREAS, A significant number of states have passed
7 resolutions applying for a convention to propose a balanced budget
8 amendment pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution,
9 thereby rendering it appropriate to select and instruct commissioners to
10 any such convention called on or before December 31, 2018; and

11 WHEREAS, It appears that the two-thirds threshold of states to
12 apply for a convention limited to proposing a balanced budget
13 amendment to the United States Constitution will soon be reached; and

14 WHEREAS, In its call, Congress will be required to specify an
15 initial time and place for the meeting of such a convention for proposing
16 amendments; and

17 WHEREAS, It is appropriate for the state legislatures to prepare
18 for the convention and to recommend to Congress an initial time and
19 place for the convention; and

20 WHEREAS, The state of Arizona called a planning convention of
21 the states in House Concurrent Resolution 2022, in 2017, to convene
22 initially at 12 p.m. on September 12, 2017, in Phoenix, Arizona, for the
23 limited purposes of:

24 (a) Planning for and recommending rules and procedures for the
25 prospective convention for proposing a balanced budget amendment to
26 the United States Constitution; and

27 (b) Recommending to Congress the criteria for determining the
28 initial date and location of a convention for proposing a balanced budget
29 amendment and a specific initial date and location of a convention for
30 proposing a balanced budget amendment; now, therefore,

31 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-first General Assembly*
32 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

1 (1) That the Colorado General Assembly shall send a delegation
2 to the planning convention;

3 (2) That a Colorado balanced budget amendment planning
4 convention delegation is established;

5 (3) That the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint
6 one member of the delegation, the President of the Senate shall appoint
7 one member of the delegation, and the President and Speaker shall jointly
8 appoint one member of the delegation; and

9 (4) That the Colorado General Assembly shall pay all of the
10 delegation's costs of attending the planning convention from available
11 legislative resources.

12 *Be It Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to
13 Governor John Hickenlooper; the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives for the Arizona Legislature; and the President of the
15 Senate for the Arizona Legislature.