

28 and family debt, spiraling national debt aggravates ills that may not be immediately felt but are
29 equally harmful to society;

30 WHEREAS, the national debt, which is approximately 14 trillion dollars, has increased
31 by over 3 trillion dollars in the last two years alone;

32 WHEREAS, out of control deficits and the massive federal debt suggest that tough
33 decisions lie ahead if the United States is to have control of its financial destiny;

34 WHEREAS, the leaders of this nation must be held accountable for the financial
35 decisions they make ~~H→ [and not be allowed to spend the nation into financial oblivion] ←H~~ ;

36 WHEREAS, ratifying a proposed constitutional amendment requiring a balanced
37 budget would clearly communicate to the federal government that the states, on behalf of their
38 citizens, insist that their tax money be spent in a manner that demonstrates fiscal responsibility
39 ~~H→ [and the same accountability that leads to the punishment, through federal laws and regulations,
40 of many American citizens who spend more than they make] ←H~~ ; and

41 WHEREAS, a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget, though not
42 without discomfort and sacrifice, would serve as a vital fiscal reality check for the United
43 States Government and its people:

44 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah, the
45 Governor concurring therein, strongly urge the United States Congress to pass an amendment
46 to the United States Constitution requiring a balanced budget ~~H→~~ **by October 1, 2011** ~~←H~~ and
46a send it to the states for
47 ratification.

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Majority
49 Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
50 and to the members of Utah's congressional delegation.

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Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel