

By Mr. Walsh, a petition (accompanied by resolutions, Senate, No. 1719) of Joseph B. Walsh for the adoption of resolutions memorializing the Congress of the United States to adopt an amendment to the federal Constitution for a balanced budget and to call a constitutional convention for said purpose. Federal Financial Assistance.

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-nine.

RESOLUTIONS MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION FOR A BALANCED BUDGET AND TO CALL A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOR SAID PURPOSE.

*Whereas*, the level of federal expenditures demonstrates an unwillingness or inability of both the legislative and executive branches of the Federal Government to curtail spending to conform to available revenues; and

*Whereas*, inflation is being fought almost exclusively by monetary policy while fiscal policy could and should be employed; and

*Whereas*, it is just and proper that the United States of America in its obligation to provide leadership for all of the states of the union should pursue the same policy; and

*Whereas*, a balanced budget would lessen the economic burdens of its citizens; and

*Whereas*, a balanced budget would lessen the need for increased state and local taxes, now, therefore; be it

*Resolved*, that the General Court of the Commonwealth respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the specific and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require a balanced federal budget and to make certain exceptions with respect thereto; and that this application by the General Court constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made similar applications pursuant to Article V, but if Congress proposes an amendment to the Constitution identical in subject matter to that contained in this

Joint Memorial before January first, nineteen hundred seventy-nine, this petition for a constitutional convention shall no longer be of any force or effect; and that the General Court propose that the legislative body of each of the several states comprising the United States apply to the Congress of the United States requiring the Congress to call a constitutional convention for proposing an appropriate amendment to the Federal Constitution or requesting the enactment of such an amendment to be submitted to the states for ratification; and be it further

*Resolved*, That a copy of this memorial shall be transmitted to the President of the United States; to each member of the Congressional Delegation from the Commonwealth; to the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America; to each Governor of each state in the United States of America and to the presiding officer of each legislative body in the United States of America.