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MAR 0 3 2011

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS A BALANCED BUDGET.

WHEREAS, the United States federal government can spend more money than it takes in because there is no federal balanced budget requirement; and

WHEREAS, this unfettered spending has resulted in a dangerously escalating national debt; and

WHEREAS, at the close of fiscal year 2011, the United States national debt is projected to be more than \$14 trillion; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of national debt attributable to each individual American citizen, including every new born baby, will be approximately \$46,000, while the percentage attributable to a family of four will be approximately \$184,000; and

WHEREAS, The United States debtor nation status is causing international problems, and as a result, confidence in the United States is waning; and

WHEREAS, if the United States balance sheets were those of a business in the private sector, the business would be deemed on the verge of bankruptcy; and

WHEREAS, the national deficit is, in part, the result of the federal government continuing to duplicate state programs in violation of the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, most states have a provision in their constitutions requiring that they have balanced budgets; and

WHEREAS, spending borrowed money from the federal government is in clear violation of states' balanced budget requirements; and

WHEREAS, certain federal entitlements and programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security clearly have unfunded future liabilities that will cause them to be insolvent; and

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WHEREAS, a balanced budget amendment for the United States Constitution would require Congress to fund a balanced budget; and

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WHEREAS, a balanced budget requirement would necessitate Congress prioritizing spending, cutting inefficient and duplicative programs, and retuning responsibilities and rights to the states; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature supports an amendment to the U.S. Constitution requiring a balanced federal budget, and urges that a bill requiring a balanced federal budget be introduced, heard, and moved out of Committee, to receive the consideration of the full United States Senate and the full United States House of Representatives; and further the Legislature encourages Congress and the President to support passage of this constitutional amendment; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States and all members of Congress.

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OFFERED BY:

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