

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 62

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 21, 1996

By Senator BUBBA

1   **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** memorializing the Congress of the United  
2       States to pass an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to  
3       require a balanced federal budget, and to reduce the federal budget deficit  
4       each of the next seven years and achieve a balanced budget within seven  
5       years.

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7   **WHEREAS**, Over the past two decades, this nation has moved deeply into debt  
8       as its expenditures have greatly and repeatedly exceeded available  
9       revenue; and

10   **WHEREAS**, The federal budget process has done little to control government  
11       spending or to encourage thrift, so that now the public debt is in the  
12       multi-trillions of dollars; and

13   **WHEREAS**, Attempts to limit spending, including the impoundment of funds by  
14       the President of the United States, have encountered the strong argument  
15       that the responsibility for appropriations is the constitutional duty of  
16       Congress; and

17   **WHEREAS**, Because the Constitution of the United States currently permits the  
18       President only to either accept or veto in its entirety any bill containing  
19       appropriations, he cannot act as an effective check on the fiscal measures  
20       passed by Congress; and

21   **WHEREAS**, This lack of authority means that the President has less budgetary  
22       control than the governors of 43 individual states, including New Jersey,  
23       who have the power to veto individual items in appropriations bills; and

24   **WHEREAS**, The escalating federal budget deficit and the lack of fiscal restraint  
25       on the part of the government has prompted members of Congress to press  
26       for the passage of legislation which would require a balanced federal  
27       budget; and

28   **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper that this House go on record as urging the  
29       Congress to pass a constitutional amendment to require a balanced federal  
30       budget, so that the mounting federal debt can finally be brought under  
31       control; now, therefore,

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33       **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the General  
34       Assembly concurring):

