June 20, 2016

The Honorable Karen Haas
Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol, Room H154
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Clerk,

Pursuant to section 3(c) of House Resolution 5 (114th Congress), I hereby designate the attached Memorial from the State of Florida, received by the House of Representatives in the year 1988, as purporting to be a rescission of a prior application of the State legislature calling for a convention for proposing amendments to the Constitution of the United States pursuant to Article V, and request that you make it publicly available.

Sincerely,

Bob Goodlatte
Chairman
Senate Memorial No. 302

A memorial to the Congress of the United States, urging Congress to adopt a joint resolution providing for an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that requires the federal budget to be in balance except under specified emergency conditions and withdrawing previous memorials to Congress on this subject.

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Florida have adopted, as a provision of their state constitution, the requirement that the state government operate on the basis of a balanced budget, and that requirement has proved of great benefit to the state, and

WHEREAS, in 1976, responding to national concern over a public debt which was then in excess of $300 billion and the existence of a $43 billion federal deficit, the Florida Legislature made application to the Congress of the United States to call a constitutional convention to propose an amendment to the Constitution of the United States requiring a balanced federal budget, and

WHEREAS, the national debt in 1986 exceeded $1 trillion, and the estimated 1987 fiscal deficit is now approximately $173.2 billion, and

WHEREAS, what was a national concern in 1976 has, in 1988, become a national crisis, and

WHEREAS, this condition of our national fiscal policy threatens the security of our nation, and

WHEREAS, the threat to the security of our nation has become so imminent that we can no longer afford the time and

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expense of a constitutional convention to propose and debate a
solution to the crisis that is self-evident, and

WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United
States provides for the proposal of amendments to the
Constitution of the United States by two-thirds concurrence of
the members of both Houses of Congress, and

WHEREAS, We should each and every one demand of our
U.S. Senators and Congressmen that such an amendment be
introduced in both houses of the Congress and that the elected
Florida delegation lead the fight to bring about the proposal
of this critically important constitutional amendment, NOW,
THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the Congress of the United States is urged to
adopt, without delay, a joint resolution providing for an
amendment to the Constitution of the United States that
requires the federal budget to be in balance except under
specified emergency conditions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Congress of the United
States is urged to take appropriate and immediate action to
continue to bring the federal budget into balance and to cause
the reduction of the outstanding national debt in the
foreseeable future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this memorial supersedes
all previous memorials applying to the Congress of the United
States to call a convention to propose an amendment to the
Constitution of the United States to require a balanced
federal budget, including Senate Memorial No. 234 and House

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Memorial No. 2801, both passed in 1976, and that such previous memorials are hereby revoked and withdrawn.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be dispatched to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of Congress and the members of the Congressional delegation from the State of Florida.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 31, 1988.

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