
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8030

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Senators Thorsness, Oke, Nelson, Sellar, Barr and L. Smith

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1 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
2 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
3 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF
4 EACH HOUSE OF EACH STATE LEGISLATURE IN THE UNITED STATES:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, Despite various efforts to control the growth of federal
9 spending, the President has had insufficient authority with respect to
10 the budgetary process; and

11 WHEREAS, The federal budget has not been balanced since 1969, and
12 the national debt jeopardizes the economic well-being of the country;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Presidents from both major political parties have cited
15 the need for greater presidential involvement in administering the
16 budgetary affairs of the nation; and

1 WHEREAS, Governors in forty-three states have the constitutional
2 power to veto items of appropriation while approving other portions of
3 a bill; and

4 WHEREAS, This power has been described by political scholars as a
5 highly desirable one, and one that has had a positive effect on the
6 operation of government; and

7 WHEREAS, Under Article V of the United States Constitution,
8 amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by the Congress whenever
9 two-thirds of both houses deem it necessary, or, on the application of
10 the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, the Congress
11 shall call a Constitutional Convention for the purpose of proposing
12 amendments;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists, a majority of all members of the
14 two houses, voting separately concurring herein, petition the Congress
15 of the United States of America to adopt an amendment to the
16 Constitution of the United States, for submission to the states for
17 ratification, authorizing the President of the United States to reduce
18 or eliminate, in whole or in part, one or more items of appropriation
19 while approving other portions of a bill.

20 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Legislature of the state of Washington
21 hereby requests the Congress to submit to the several states the
22 amendment to the Constitution of the United States for purposes of
23 ratification; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
25 transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker
26 of the House of Representatives, and to the Senate and House of
27 Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, and to the
28 presiding officer of each house of each state legislature in the United
29 States.