



Idaho State Senate

Office of the Secretary
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0081

April 8, 2026

The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask
State House
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05366

To The Honorable BetsyAnn Wrask,

I have the honor of transmitting the following Senate Joint Memorial which has passed the Idaho State Senate and the Idaho State House of Representatives during the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature:

Senate Joint Memorial No. 112

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "JL Novak".

Jennifer Novak
Secretary of the Idaho State Senate

Enclosures: 1



IN THE SENATE

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 112

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1
2 TO THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CON-
3 GRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE
4 STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and the House of Representatives
6 of the State of Idaho assembled in the Second Regular Session of the
7 Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

8 WHEREAS, the United States was founded on principles of limited govern-
9 ment, fiscal responsibility, and accountability to the people; and

10 WHEREAS, the federal government has experienced persistent budget
11 deficits and a growing national debt for many years, raising ongoing con-
12 cerns regarding long-term fiscal sustainability; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States Congress has allowed the federal government
14 to accumulate a national debt exceeding \$38 trillion as of 2026, represent-
15 ing a significant burden on current and future generations of Americans; and

16 WHEREAS, proposals for a balanced federal budget have been considered
17 for decades as one potential mechanism to promote fiscal discipline and con-
18 strain deficit spending; and

19 WHEREAS, public discussion regarding a federal balanced budget amend-
20 ment has remained active nationwide, and such proposals continue to receive
21 support from a substantial portion of the American public; and

22 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States provides
23 that "The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it neces-
24 sary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution" and subsequently shall
25 be ratified by the states; and

26 WHEREAS, the United States has amended the Constitution of the United
27 States 27 times through this proper and tested method contained in Article V;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Idaho recognizes that amend-
30 ments affecting federal fiscal policy and budgetary structure are appropri-
31 ately addressed at the federal level through a deliberative and nationally
32 uniform process; and

33 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Idaho recognizes the many other
34 states seeking to appeal to congress for this cause and the pervasive efforts
35 of local, multi-state, and national groups to solve this issue for genera-
36 tions; and

37 WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Idaho seeks to lead, with
38 Idaho's federal delegation, in resolving this issue in an effort to save
39 generations of Idahoans and Americans to come from the crippling debt and
40 failures of the past; and

41 WHEREAS, United States Senator Mike Crapo has served the people of Idaho
42 in Congress for 33 years since 1993 and serves as Chairman of the Senate Com-

1 mittee on Finance during the 119th Congress, and has served as Ranking Member
2 of the Senate Committee on Finance; and

3 WHEREAS, Jim Risch has represented Idaho as a United States Senator for
4 17 years since 2009, has served on the Senate Committee on Small Business and
5 Entrepreneurship, and is Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Rela-
6 tions, where he has exercised oversight of federal spending; and

7 WHEREAS, Mike Simpson has served Idaho's Second Congressional District
8 in the United States House of Representatives for 27 years since 1999 and has
9 served on the House Committee on Appropriations since 2005, participating
10 directly in the development and oversight of federal discretionary spend-
11 ing bills and shaping national budget priorities, playing a central role in
12 determining federal funding levels and had responsibility over the steward-
13 ship of taxpayer dollars; and

14 WHEREAS, Russ Fulcher has served Idaho's First Congressional District
15 in the United States House of Representatives for seven years since 2019 and
16 has served on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, addressing matters
17 related to commerce and economic development, and has advocated for fiscal
18 discipline, regulatory reform, and policies intended to promote economic
19 growth and reduce federal spending; and

20 WHEREAS, United States Senators Mike Crapo and Jim Risch have demon-
21 strated sustained leadership in prior efforts to advance a balanced budget
22 amendment to the Constitution of the United States, most recently in 2023,
23 reflecting their continued commitment to fiscal responsibility and posi-
24 tioning them to once again lead Congress in restoring long-term budgetary
25 discipline.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
27 sion of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Rep-
28 resentatives concurring therein, that the Legislature of the State of Idaho
29 calls on Idaho's federal delegation to lead the Congress of the United States
30 in balancing the federal budget and reigning in the national debt, including
31 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States that shall be
32 ratified by the states requiring a balanced federal budget.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Idaho Legislature encourages the con-
34 gressional delegation representing the State of Idaho to engage in discus-
35 sion and deliberation on this issue within the Congress of the United States.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is
37 hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the
38 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of
39 Congress, to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho
40 in the Congress of the United States, and to the legislatures of the other 49
41 states.