

I have spoken many times on the floor of the urgent need for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution. Today I urge my colleagues to once again consider the necessity of this amendment. Furthermore I commend the leadership of Colorado State Representative Steve Tool, who is also my State Representative, and Senate President Ray Powers, for sponsoring H.J. Res. 99-1040. These statements have added great credibility and weight to the argument in favor of a balanced budget amendment.

Accordingly, I submit for the RECORD Colorado H.J. Res. 99-1040 and urge colleagues to consider the thoughtful opinion of the State of Colorado.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 99-1040

Whereas, the federal budget has been balanced only once since 1969, and federal public debt now exceeds \$5.5 trillion, an amount equaling approximately \$20,000 for every man, woman, and child in America; and

Whereas, Chronic deficit spending demonstrates an unwillingness or inability on the part of the executive and legislative branches of the federal government to spend no more than the amount of available revenues; and

Whereas, Fiscal irresponsibility at the federal level lowers our standard of living, destroys jobs, and endangers economic opportunity now and for those in the next generation; and

Whereas, The federal government's unlimited ability to borrow money to finance its deficits raises concerns directed to the fundamental structure and responsibilities of government, making such fiscal policies an appropriate subject for limitation in the United States constitution; and

Whereas, The United States constitution vests the ultimate responsibility for changing the terms of that charter with the people, as represented by their elected state legislatures, and opposition by a small minority in the United States Congress has consistently thwarted the will of the people that a balanced budget amendment be submitted to the states for ratification; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein,

That we, members of the Sixty-second General Assembly, request the Congress of the United States to expeditiously pass and submit to the legislatures of the fifty states for their ratification an amendment to the United States constitution requiring that, in the absence of a national emergency the total of all federal appropriations for any given fiscal year not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenues for the fiscal year. Be it

Further resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to each member of Colorado's delegation to the United States Congress.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO CHLOE WILLIAMS FOR HER DEDICATION TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an

outstanding individual from the great state of Ohio. This weekend, in very special ceremonies in Columbus, Ohio, the Ohio Veterans of Foreign Wars will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the organization. At those ceremonies, Ms. Chloe Williams will be among those helping make the 100th Anniversary a success.

Ms. Williams, of Post 1090, has given her time and energy to assisting our nation's veterans. A veteran of the United States Army, Ms. Williams is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Through her service to our veterans and the VFW, she has moved through the ranks at the district and state levels of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, it is people like Chloe Williams that truly make a difference in the lives of our veterans. Through her work in District 8 and around the state, she has vigorously promoted the programs of the VFW, especially the Operation Uplink program, which provides long distance phone service to active duty personnel and to veterans.

It has been said that America thrives and prospers due to the unselfish and dedicated efforts of her citizens. With the hard work of Chloe Williams and the two million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, I think that adage is perfectly clear.

Mr. Speaker, on this 100th Anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, I would like to say thank you to all those who have worked so hard on behalf of our veterans. Certainly, Chloe Williams has made a positive impact, and we thank her for her commitment. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in special tribute to Chloe Williams and to those attending the 100th Anniversary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Best wishes to each of you now and in the future.

BAN JUDICIAL TAXATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 1999

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing an amendment to the Constitution to ban the Judiciary at any level of government from levying or increasing taxes. Why? Because levying and increasing taxes is a function of the legislative branch of government. Consider, after all, the separation of powers doctrine. Most citizens of our great country have heard at one time or another about separation of powers. We were taught about it in our civics classes growing up. We learned about it in our history classes. We read about it in the Constitution. I, for one, believe that the Constitution is clear in its delineation of duties. I don't believe the Founding Fathers meant to leave much to interpretation. There really are no mincing of words. Please consider:

Article I. Section 8. The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States, but all duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.—United States Constitution

Article I. Section 7. All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other bills.—United States Constitution

These words are succinct and explicit, and they spell out exactly how taxes are to be raised. If there is any question, consider the following quotations from other relevant sources:

"Were the power of judging joined with the legislative, the life and liberty of the subject would be exposed to arbitrary control for the judge would then get the legislator. Were it joined to the executive power, the judge might behave with all of the violence of an oppressor."

"There can be no liberty where the legislative and executive powers are united in the same person, or body of magistrates, or, if the power of judging be not separated from the legislative and executive powers . . ."—James Madison, Federalist Number 47, quoting Montesquieu to defend the Constitution's separation of powers.

"[T]he judiciary, from the nature of its functions, will always be the least dangerous to the political rights of the constitution; because it will be least in a capacity to annoy or injure them. The executive not only dispenses the honors, but holds the sword of the community. The legislature not only commands the purse, but prescribes the rules by which the duties and rights of every citizen are to be regulated. The judiciary on the contrary has no influence over either the sword or the purse, no direction either of the strength or of the wealth of the society, and can take no active resolution, whatever. It may truly be said to have neither Force nor Will, but merely judgement; and ultimately must depend upon the aid of the executive arm even for the efficacy of its judgements."—Alexander Hamilton, Federalist Number 78

"The interpretation of the laws is the proper and peculiar province of the courts. A constitution is in fact, and must be, regarded by the judges as a fundamental law. It therefore belongs to them to ascertain its meaning as well as the meaning of any particular act proceeding from the legislative body."—Alexander Hamilton, Federalist Number 78

If there is any phrase that sums up the reason for the existence of this republic, that phrase is "no taxation without representation." These are the words of Thomas Jefferson, who, when he wrote the Declaration of Independence, cited King George for three things: (1) the king refused to pass laws that would allow people the right to be represented in their own legislature; (2) he called together legislative bodies at unusual times so nothing could be done; and (3) he imposed taxes on the people without their consent!

Finally, James Madison asked the rhetorical question in Federalist number 33, "[w]hat is a power but the ability or faculty of doing a thing? What is the power of laying and collecting taxes but a legislative power?"

Why, then, 210 years after the ratification of our nation's Constitution do we have unelected judges—from the "least dangerous" branch—who are appointed for life, levying and raising taxes? Some people with whom I have spoken have asked me if judges can really do this. Well, they are doing it because they can. They can because Congress allows them to get away with it.

What is judicial taxation? It is the act whereby a federal court orders a state or political