

REFERENCE TITLE: **balanced budget; deficit; special session**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2024

## **HCR 2039**

Introduced by  
Representative Gress

### A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; AMENDING ARTICLE IV, PART 2, SECTION 20, CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; RELATING TO STATE BUDGETS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,  
2 the Senate concurring:

3 1. Article IV, part 2, section 20, Constitution of Arizona, is  
4 proposed to be amended as follows if approved by the voters and on  
5 proclamation of the Governor:

6 20. Appropriation bills; balanced budget; deficits;  
7 special session

8 Section 20. A. The general appropriation bill shall  
9 embrace nothing but appropriations for the different  
10 departments of ~~the~~ THIS state, for state institutions, for  
11 public schools, and for interest on the public debt. All  
12 other appropriations shall be made by separate bills, each  
13 embracing but one subject.

14 B. THE GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILL SHALL INCLUDE A  
15 PROVISION THAT DELINEATES THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE ESTIMATE  
16 AND THE GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE ESTIMATE FOR THE BUDGET  
17 FISCAL YEAR AND THE FOLLOWING TWO FISCAL YEARS. THE ESTIMATES  
18 MUST BE BALANCED FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR. THE ESTIMATES ARE  
19 BALANCED FOR A FISCAL YEAR IF THE UNRESERVED GENERAL FUND  
20 BEGINNING BALANCE, TOGETHER WITH THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE  
21 ESTIMATE FOR THAT FISCAL YEAR, IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN THE  
22 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURE ESTIMATE FOR THAT FISCAL YEAR.

23 C. ON THE SECOND FRIDAY OF OCTOBER AND DECEMBER OF EACH  
24 YEAR, THE LEGISLATURE SHALL PUBLISH A REVISED ESTIMATE OF  
25 PROJECTED GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES  
26 FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR AND SHALL TRANSMIT A COPY OF THE  
27 REVISED ESTIMATE TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE TREASURER. IF THE  
28 REVISED ESTIMATE OF PROJECTED GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND  
29 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES INDICATES THAT GENERAL FUND  
30 EXPENDITURES IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR WILL EXCEED THE  
31 ESTIMATED GENERAL FUND REVENUES BY AT LEAST TWO PERCENT, THE  
32 LEGISLATURE MAY PRESENT TO THE GOVERNOR A PETITION BEARING THE  
33 SIGNATURES OF AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF EACH HOUSE  
34 AND REQUESTING A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE ONLY FOR  
35 THE PURPOSE OF RESOLVING THE BUDGET DEFICIT. THE PETITION  
36 SHALL DESIGNATE THE DATE OF CONVENING. ON RECEIPT OF THE  
37 PETITION, THE GOVERNOR SHALL PROMPTLY CALL A SPECIAL SESSION  
38 TO ASSEMBLE ON THE DATE SPECIFIED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
39 RESOLVING THE BUDGET DEFICIT.

40 D. THE LEGISLATURE SHALL ENACT LAWS AND ADOPT RULES TO  
41 CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

42 2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the  
43 voters at the next general election as provided by article XXI,  
44 Constitution of Arizona.