

The Maximizing Americans' Prosperity Amendment

The Maximizing Americans' Prosperity Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits total federal spending from increasing faster than average American family incomes by establishing an annual federal spending limit corresponding to the lesser of the average percentage changes in household income or inflation with provisions for national emergencies, enforcement and future amendment(s) approved by a vote of the people.

1. Annual Spending Limit

The federal government shall limit total annual spending, excluding Social Security, to the full fiscal year preceding ratification, adjusted annually for the lesser of:

- a. The previous [3, 5, 7, 10]-year average annual percentage change in family net income, or
- b. The [3, 5, 7, 10]-year average percentage increase in consumer prices up to [0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5] %.
- c. Total spending shall include all cash payments made from the U.S. Treasury excluding the repayment of debt [AND LAWFUL SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS IN THE YEAR PRIOR TO RATIFICATION].

2. National Emergency Spending Bonds

In times of national emergency, the federal government may issue National Emergency Spending (NES) Bonds.

- a. NES Bonds shall be approved by Congress and the President for spending above the annual spending limit.
- b. NES Bonds shall be paid back with interest and in equal annual principal payments within [4, 8, 10] years, or up to [20, 25, 30] years for congressionally declared wars.
- c. Annual payments of principal and interest on NES Bonds shall be deducted from the established annual spending limit.

3. Enforcement: An annual independent audit of total spending shall report if a Congress has exceeded its annual spending limit. No [MEMBER, MAJORITY PARTY MEMBER] of a Congress in violation of the annual spending limit shall be eligible for reelection.

4. Amendments may be proposed to the annual spending limit by a majority vote in each chamber of Congress, or by a majority of the state legislatures. Ratification shall require a majority vote of the citizens for "YES" pledged state convention delegates in three quarters of the states.