



February 17, 2026

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## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 28

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*Introduced by: O'Brien, King, Abbott, Aylesworth, Baird, Bartels, Burton, Cash, Clere, Criswell, Culp, Engleman, Haggard, Heaton, Ireland, Judy, Karickhoff, Lauer, Lawson, Ledbetter, Lindauer, Lucas, Manning, McGuire, Miller D, Morris, Olthoff, Patterson, Payne, Pierce K, Prescott, Rowray, Slager, Smaltz, Smith H, Soliday, Sweet, Teshka, VanNatter, Yocum, Zimmerman, Bascom, Isa, Commons*

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February 5, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

February 17, 2026, reported — Do Pass.

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1           A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing the seriousness of  
2           the U.S. national debt and its threat to national security.

3           *Whereas, In December 2025, the outstanding public debt*  
4           *of the United States totaled more than \$38 trillion, with public*  
5           *debt equaling 118 percent of gross domestic product, and the*  
6           *debt owed per citizens rising \$112,000;*

7           *Whereas, More than \$8 trillion of the federal debt is owned*  
8           *by individuals outside the United States, including more than*



1       *\$800 billion owned by individuals in China;*

2               *Whereas, In fiscal year 2024, the U.S. had a deficit of over*  
3       *\$1 trillion after the U.S. Congress failed to pass a balanced*  
4       *budget, and federal tax receipts totaled \$5 trillion, short of the*  
5       *federal outlays totaling \$6.75 trillion;*

6               *Whereas, The Social Security and Medicaid board of*  
7       *trustees projects that the Old Age and Survivors Insurance*  
8       *Trust Fund and the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund will*  
9       *be depleted by 2033 and 2036, respectively;*

10              *Whereas, On September 22, 2011, the Chairman of the*  
11       *Joints Chiefs of Staff, Michael Mullen, warned, "the single,*  
12       *biggest threat to our national security is debt";*

13              *Whereas, On March 6, 2018, the Director of National*  
14       *Intelligence, Dan Coats, declared, "our continued plunge into*  
15       *debt is unsustainable and represents a dire future threat to our*  
16       *economy and to our national security"; and*

17              *Whereas, The last federal budget surplus occurred in 2001,*  
18       *and the continued rise in the national debt is a significant*  
19       *concern across Indiana and the around the country: Therefore,*

20              *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*  
21                      *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

22              SECTION 1. That the State of Indiana recognizes that the  
23       national debt is a threat to national security of the United States  
24       and urges the United States Congress to commit to establishing  
25       an effective regular order for budgeting.

26              SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of  
27       Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to each  
28       member of Indiana's Congressional delegation.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred House Resolution 28, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said resolution do pass.

(Reference is to HR 28 as printed February 5, 2026.)

THOMPSON

Committee Vote: Yeas 21, Nays 0

