

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROVIDING FOR THE 1987 REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ENACT A STATE BUDGET FOR THE 1987-88 FISCAL YEAR ONLY, AND TO RECESS, UPON COMPLETION OF THE ENACTMENT OF SUCH BUDGET AND CONSIDERATION OF THE REGULAR BUSINESS BEFORE THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, TO RECONVENE AT TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON ON THE SECOND MONDAY IN JANUARY, 1988 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING A STATE BUDGET FOR THE SECOND YEAR OF THE 1987-89 FISCAL BIENNIUM.

WHEREAS, the growth and expansion of governmental services essential to meeting the needs of the people of this State has placed an increasing financial burden upon the State; and

WHEREAS, the unstable economic conditions that now face the State make it extremely difficult to project, with any degree of certainty and dependability, the amount of revenues that will be available during the second fiscal year of the biennium; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has severely curtailed the amount of federal funds that the State has been accustomed to receiving for the support of numerous services deemed to be essential to meeting the needs of the people of this State, and it is anticipated that the enormity of the federal budget deficit will lead to further curtailment and cutbacks in federal support of many of these essential programs, thereby making it difficult to budget on other than a single fiscal year basis; and

WHEREAS, in the enactment of the Constitution of 1874, the people of this State anticipated that the General Assembly might find it necessary for a regular biennial session to exceed sixty days in duration (Article V, Sec. 17, Ark. Const.) and authorized the General Assembly to extend its regular biennial sessions by a vote of two-thirds of the members elected to each house of the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the regular session of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas hereby determines that information presently available before the General Assembly and information which is anticipated to be available during the regular sixty days of this General Assembly will not enable the General Assembly to enact a State budget with any degree of

certainty or reliability to meet the needs of the people of this State, except on an annual basis; and, that additional information and evaluation of changed circumstances and anticipated revenues will be required before the General Assembly may enact an adequate budget for the second fiscal year of the 1987-89 fiscal biennium, and that an extension of this regular session is necessary to enable the General Assembly to properly fulfill its lawful duty to appropriate funds for the support of State agencies and services;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

SECTION 1. That upon completion of the enactment of a budget to support State agencies, institutions, boards, commissions, offices, programs, and services for the 1987-88 fiscal year, and the disposition of other business before this regular session, other than the enactment of a budget for the second year of the 1987-89 fiscal biennium, the General Assembly shall, upon Resolution adopted by a majority of the members of both houses, stand in recess, to reconvene at twelve o'clock noon on the second Monday in January, 1988 for the sole purposes of:

(1) enacting a budget and appropriating funds for the support of the various State agencies, institutions, boards, commissions, offices, and programs for the 1988-89 fiscal year; and

(2) making such supplemental appropriations or appropriating such other funds as the General Assembly deems appropriate for the completion of the financial operations of the 1987-88 fiscal year and for the operation of government programs for the 1988-89 fiscal year; and

(3) making such revisions or additions to the Revenue Stabilization Law as are deemed necessary to fund the appropriations enacted by the General Assembly; and

(4) enacting such laws as are deemed necessary to provide new or additional revenues for the support of the State's budget.

SECTION 2. It is the intent of the General Assembly, by the adoption of this Resolution, that the Governor, the Department of Finance and Administration and the various State agencies, departments, institutions, boards, commissions, programs, and services of State government, and the Legislative Council shall make continuing studies of the budgetary needs of the State, and

that the Legislative Council shall prepare and submit to the reconvened session of the Seventy-Sixth General Assembly recommendations for a proposed State budget for the 1988-89 fiscal year for consideration at such extended session.