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Daily

Floor Briefing

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2001**

The House will meet at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business.

**Bill Subject to a Rule (1 bill):**

**H.J.Res. 41** – Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment

**Bill Subject to a Rule (1 bill):**

**Floor Situation**

The House will consider H.J.Res. 41, the Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment, as its only order of business today. Yesterday, the Rules Committee granted a modified closed rule that provides for two hours of debate to be equally divided and controlled by the chairman and the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee. The rule provides for one substitute amendment printed in the Congressional Record, debatable for one hour, if offered by the Minority Leader or his designee, and one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

For additional information on the rule, please contact the Rules Committee at 5-9191 or visit [http://www.house.gov/rules/special\\_rules.htm](http://www.house.gov/rules/special_rules.htm).

**Summary**

**H.J.Res. 41** proposes to amend the U.S. Constitution to require that any bill, resolution or other legislative measure changing the internal revenue laws considered by each House of Congress have a concurrence of two-thirds of those

present and voting for final adoption. There are exceptions to application of the amendment: (1) if the bill, resolution or legislative measure can be determined at the time of adoption, in a reasonable manner prescribed by law, to increase taxes by a *de minimus* amount, then the two-thirds requirement of the constitutional amendment does not apply; and (2) Congress may waive the so-called super-majority requirement when a declaration of war is in effect or when the United States is engaged in a military conflict which causes an imminent and serious threat to national security and which is declared to exist and was adopted by a majority vote in both Houses and signed into law by the president.

H.J.Res. 41 was introduced by Mr. Sessions on March 22, 2001. The measure was reported from the Judiciary Committee by a vote of 17-9 on April 4, 2001. An identical resolution, H.J.Res. 94, failed to garner the necessary two-thirds vote for passage and failed by a vote of 234-192 on April 12, 2000.

**For additional information or questions, please contact the Judiciary Committee at 5-3951.**

### **Amendments**

Ms. Jackson-Lee will offer an amendment, if ruled in order, that makes the two thirds voting requirement of this measure applicable to any bill, resolution, or other legislative measure that reduces benefits payable from the Federal Old Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, the Federal Disability Trust Fund, the Medicare Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, the Medicare Supplemental Medical Insurance Trust Fund, or any successor fund.

**For additional information or questions, please contact Ms. Jackson-Lee's office at 5-3816.**

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