

By: Schwertner

S.C.R. No. 12

1 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Of all the Lone Star State's unique culinary dishes,  
3 perhaps none says "Texas" more sweetly than pecan pie; and

4 WHEREAS, The pecan tree, which was officially designated as  
5 the state tree in 1919, is indigenous to North America and native to  
6 152 counties in Texas, where it grows in river valleys; the State  
7 Health Nut, the pecan is the state's only commercially grown nut,  
8 and Texas pecan growers account for more than 20 percent of all the  
9 pecans grown in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, Though there are many ways to enjoy pecans, it is  
11 practically a given among Texans that they belong, first and  
12 foremost, in a pie; the earliest record of this distinctive dessert  
13 dates to the late 19th century; the weekly humor magazine *Texas*  
14 *Siftings* described it in February 1886 as being "not only  
15 delicious" but "capable of being made into a 'real state pie,'" and  
16 in March 1914, the *Christian Science Monitor* featured a recipe for  
17 "Texas Pecan Pie" with a custard filling that called for a cup of  
18 sweet milk, a cup of sugar, three well-beaten eggs, a tablespoon of  
19 flour, and half a cup of "finely chopped pecan meats"; and

20 WHEREAS, It was around 1930 when the pie became the  
21 syrup-based creation it is today; the wife of an executive at the  
22 Karo Syrup Company combined that product with pecans to make a pie,  
23 and it proved to be an irresistible mixture; the pie subsequently  
24 gained national recognition through advertisements forever linking

1 the syrup with pecans in the public's mind; recipes for pecan pie  
2 began appearing in such popular cookbooks as *The Joy of Cooking* and  
3 *The Fannie Farmer Cookbook* in the 1940s, and it became a staple in  
4 restaurants across the state and nation; and

5 WHEREAS, Pecan pie recipes are varied and numerous, with  
6 differences regarding the sugar-to-syrup ratio and the size and  
7 consistency of the nuts, and are a matter of debate, strong opinion,  
8 and deeply held family tradition; yet Texans generally agree on two  
9 things: Texas pecan pies are, hands down, the best, especially when  
10 made with Texas pecans by a Texan, and secondly, whether served hot  
11 or cold, with a scoop of ice cream or without, pecan pie is indeed  
12 the perfect ending to any meal; now, therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That the 83rd Legislature of the State of Texas  
14 hereby designate pecan pie as the official State Pie of Texas.