

By: Schwertner
(Farney)

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.