

citizens to join in the spirit of this special holiday.●

NATIONAL PECAN MONTH

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, April is "National Pecan Month." One of the nation's important agricultural products, pecans are the only major tree nut that can be considered a true American nut. Pecans were first discovered growing in North America and parts of Mexico in the 1600's and were given the name "pecan" based on the Native American word of Algonquin origin, meaning "all nuts requiring a stone to crack." Pecans were favored by pre-colonial residents and served as a major source of food because they were accessible to waterways and easier to shell than other North American nut species.

Today, pecans are grown in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Texas and are enjoyed around the world as the perfect nut. According to U.S. Department of Agriculture statistics, over 346 million pounds of pecans were produced in the U.S. in 1999. In fact, the majority of the world's pecan production, 80 percent, comes from the U.S.

While valued for their wonderful aroma and flavor, scientific research has begun to recently reveal an even more important reason to make pecans part of an everyday, healthy diet. According to researchers at leading academic institutions in this country, pecans have many of the important nutritional attributes that health professionals recommend. Not only are nutrition researchers finding that pecans can lower blood cholesterol levels when incorporated into the diet, food scientists have also found that pecans are a concentrated source of plant sterols, which are widely touted for their cholesterol-lowering ability. Numerous studies have also shown that phytochemicals like those found in pecans act as antioxidants, which can have a protective effect against many diseases.

Since 90 percent of the fat in pecans are of the heart-healthy unsaturated variety, they fit right into the government's latest U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans issued in May 2000. The latest dietary guidelines from the American Heart Association, AHA, also bode well for pecan lovers. The new AHA guidelines specifically advise Americans to limit their intake of saturated fat and to "substitute grains and unsaturated fatty acids from fish, vegetables, legumes and nuts" in its place.

In addition to their cholesterol-lowering properties and heart-healthy fats, pecans contain more than 19 important vitamins and minerals, including vitamins A and E, folic acid, calcium, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, zinc and several B vitamins, and are a good

source of fiber. Pecans are part of the protein group in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Guide Pyramid, making them a nutritious alternative for Americans who are vegetarians or striving to eat a more plant-based diet. Pecans, which are naturally sodium-free, are also ideal for anyone who wishes to restrict their sodium intake.

Pecans, a true all-American nut, deserve to be recognized. Not only for their long history of providing sustenance and enjoyment, but for the health benefits they can provide to Americans—especially those striving to eat a healthier diet. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating "National Pecan Month."●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 8. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to phaseout the estate and gift taxes over a 10-year period, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-1341. A communication from the Acting Administrator of Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nectarines and Peaches Grown in California; Revision of Handling Requirements for Fresh Nectarines and Peaches" (Doc No. FV01-916-1 IFR) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1342. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fenpyroximate; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL6773-2) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1343. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imidacloprid; Pesticide Tolerance"

(FRL6777-6) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1344. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri" (FRL6964-1) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1345. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Vehicle Inspection Maintenance Program Requirements Incorporating the Onboard Diagnostic Check" (FRL6962-9) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1346. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Signature by Mark" (RIN2900-AK07) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1347. A communication from the Director of the Office of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Claims Based on the Effect of Tobacco Products" (RIN2900-AJ59) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1348. A communication from the Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assessments" (RIN2550-AA15) received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1349. A communication from the Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rules of Practice and Procedure" (RIN2550-AA16) received on April 2, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1350. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed Manufacturing License Agreement with the Republic of Korea; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1351. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the promulgation of an interim rule which amends 22 CFR 41.81; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1352. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Announcement and Report Concerning Pre-Filing Agreements" (Ann. 2001-38, 2001-17) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1353. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2000 Nonconventional Source Fuel Credit" (Notice 2001-31) received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1354. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Financial Report of the United States Government for Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1355. A communication from the Director of the National Science Foundation,

transmitting, the report of the Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1356. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the list of General Accounting Office Reports for February 2001; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1357. A communication from the Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1358. A communication from the Executive Director of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Annual Performance Plan Report for Fiscal Year 2000 and the Performance Plan for Fiscal Year 2002; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1359. A communication from the Secretary of Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1360. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report on the system of internal accounting and financial controls in effect during Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1361. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 13-597, "21st Century Financial Modernization Act of 2000"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1362. A communication from the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1363. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of additions to the procurement list received on April 3, 2001; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1364. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-4. A resolution adopted by the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government relative to parks and other natural resources; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-5. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming relative to wildlife management; to the Committee on Appropriations.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 4

Whereas, the United States government has adopted and is implementing a plan for the recovery of the grizzly bear and gray wolf in the Northern Rocky Mountain region; and

Whereas, the federal policy to restore the grizzly bear and gray wolf in the Northern Rocky Mountain region has a continuing financial obligation which should be borne by the same broad segment of the United States

population which imposed the policy in order to continue the effective management of these species; and

Whereas, significant portions of the range of the grizzly bear and gray wolf are located within the Northern Rocky Mountain region on lands managed by the United States Department of the Interior and the United States Department of Agriculture; and

Whereas, the management of resident wildlife species not listed under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, is the responsibility of the states; and

Whereas, grizzly bear and gray wolf populations are increasing and should therefore be removed from the federal list of endangered species, thereby shifting a substantial responsibility from management of these wildlife species to the state of Wyoming; and

Whereas, the state of Wyoming acknowledges its responsibility and authority for the management of the grizzly bear and gray wolf in the Northern Rocky Mountain region after those species have been removed from the list of endangered species; and

Whereas, providing a substantial permanent and stable source of funding to help pay for the continuing costs of managing these unique species is essential for the successful management of the grizzly bear and gray wolf in the Northern Rocky Mountain region; and

Whereas, the costs to manage these wildlife species in the Northern Rocky Mountain region will be significantly greater than can be sustained through the existing budgets of the responsible state and federal agencies; and

Whereas, a national trust should be established for the management of these wildlife species with the understanding that the responsible state and federal agencies will continue to seek necessary appropriations from their respective legislative bodies for the continuing management of these wildlife species, consistent with their respective statutory mandates. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the members of the legislature of the State of Wyoming, a majority of all the members of each house, voting separately, concurring therein:

Section 1. That the Wyoming State Legislature endorses the establishment of the Northern Rocky Mountain Grizzly Bear and Gray Wolf Management Trust as a special fund within the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, to provide funding for the management and compensation payments for losses incurred by individuals and entities, made by state and federal entities arising out of the continuing management of grizzly bear and gray wolf populations in the Northern Rocky Mountain region.

Section 2. That the Wyoming State Legislature requests that the United States Congress fund the corpus of the Management Trust with a minimum of forty million dollars (\$40,000,000.00) by January 1, 2003, which is the minimum amount presently anticipated to be required to fund the obligations resulting from the continuing management of these unique species.

Section 3. That the Wyoming State Legislature encourages individuals, businesses, corporations and organizations across the United States to contribute to the corpus of the Management Trust to ensure the continuing management of the grizzly bear and gray wolf in the Northern Rocky Mountain region of the United States.

Section 4. The Secretary of State of Wyoming is directed to transmit copies of this resolution and a copy of the list of members voting for this proposal to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to the United States Secretary of Interior

and the United States Secretary of Agriculture and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

POM-6. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming relative to wildlife management; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Whereas, separation of powers is fundamental to the United States Constitution and the power of the federal government is limited; and

Whereas, the state of Wyoming has certain rights guaranteed to the states by the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, under the United States constitution, the states are to determine public policy; and

Whereas, traditionally the state of Wyoming has participated in issues regarding the introduction or reintroduction of threatened or endangered species into boundaries of the state; and

Whereas, the costs of managing and conserving the threatened or endangered species is significantly greater than can be sustained through the annual operating budgets of state agencies; and

Whereas, the introduction or reintroduction of threatened or endangered species may have a negative impact on the state of Wyoming's industries and economy; and

Whereas, the United States Congress should not make decisions for the introduction or reintroduction of threatened or endangered species into the state of Wyoming without the consent and approval of the state; and

Whereas, the United States Congress should not make decisions for the introduction or reintroduction of threatened or endangered species into the state of Wyoming without providing necessary funding for the management and conservation of these species.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the members of the legislature of the State of Wyoming, a majority of all the members of each house, voting separately, concurring therein:

Section 1. That the Wyoming State Legislature does not condone the introduction of threatened or endangered species pursuant to the federal "Endangered Species Act of 1973" 16 U.S.C. §1531, et seq., as amended, into the state of Wyoming without the approval and consent of the state of Wyoming.

Section 2. That the Wyoming State Legislature strongly encourages the United States Congress to appropriate monies for the management and conservation of threatened or endangered species prior to their introduction or reintroduction into the state of Wyoming, and to establish federal funding sources to provide for state management of the species following delisting.

Section 3. That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, to the United States Secretary of Interior and the United States Secretary of Agriculture and to the Wyoming Congressional Delegation.

POM-7. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of North Dakota relative to amending the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3031

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States reserves to the states a broad range of powers and the power of the federal government is strictly limited with regard to powers reserved to the states; and