

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND COMMEMORATING THE PULSE CROP.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the Idaho Pea and Lentil Commission was established July 1, 1965, to manage the funds collected from the assessment on dry peas, lentils and chickpeas. The seven-person commission allocates funding for research, domestic and international marketing, government affairs and education; and

WHEREAS, the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council was also established in 1965 as a nonprofit organization to promote and protect the interests of growers, processors, warehousemen and sellers of dry peas, lentils and chickpeas in the United States; and

WHEREAS, both the Idaho Pea and Lentil Commission and the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council are headquartered in Moscow, Idaho, also known as the "Pea and Lentil Capital of the World"; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Bean Commission was created in 1957 to promote Idaho's quality dry and green beans and promote their nutritional and health benefits and is headquartered in Boise. The eight-member commission allocates funding for research, domestic and international marketing, government affairs and education; and

WHEREAS, Idaho has almost 200,000 acres planted annually into beans, dry peas, lentils and chickpeas; and

WHEREAS, pulse crops such as lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas are a vital source of plant-based proteins and amino acids for people around the globe and should be eaten as part of a healthy diet to address obesity, as well as to prevent and help manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer; and

WHEREAS, pulses are also an important source of plant-based protein for animals; and

WHEREAS, pulses are leguminous plants that have nitrogen-fixing properties that can contribute to increasing soil fertility and have a positive impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, more than two-thirds of the United States adult population are overweight or obese, with diabetes being one of the leading causes of death. Pulses are a healthy option that are nutrient-dense with fewer calories, have more fiber and protein, deliver great flavor, are gluten-free with low allergen and with low glycemic responses; and

WHEREAS, childhood obesity affects one in every six American youth. Pulses can be a healthy alternative as they are low in fat but high in fiber and protein. Pulses are also rich in zinc, which is crucial to building a healthy immune system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and

1 the Senate concurring therein, that we commemorate the mighty Pulse for sin-
2 gular recognition.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize and thank the Idaho Pea and
4 Lentil Commission and the USA Dry Pea & Lentil Council for their tireless
5 work ensuring this historic and singular recognition of the pulse, bringing
6 honor and respect to the great State of Idaho.