

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to designation of the state dessert;
3 creating s. 15.0522, F.S.; designating strawberry
4 shortcake as the official state dessert; providing an
5 effective date.

6
7 WHEREAS, more than 10,000 acres of strawberries are planted
8 annually in the greater Plant City area, accounting for 75
9 percent of the United States' winter strawberry crop, and

10 WHEREAS, beginning in the spring of 1930, and again in 1948
11 after a 6-year hiatus during and following World War II, the
12 Florida Strawberry Festival, held in Plant City and organized by
13 the Plant City Lions Club, was revived by American Legion Post
14 #26 and other area civic organizations, and

15 WHEREAS, each spring, the Florida Strawberry Festival
16 welcomes visitors from around the world to celebrate this slice
17 of Americana and the area's bountiful harvests, and

18 WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 strawberry shortcakes, the
19 festival's signature dessert, are served each year at the
20 Florida Strawberry Festival, making it a staple among festival
21 attendees, and

22 WHEREAS, strawberry shortcake is a dessert consisting of a
23 base of shortcake, which resembles a biscuit with a touch of
24 cake, a layer of sweet, sliced strawberries, and a healthy
25 dollop of whipped cream, and

HB 567

2022

26 WHEREAS, in 2000, the *Guinness Book of World Records*
 27 recognized Plant City as home of the biggest shortcake in the
 28 world, NOW, THEREFORE,

29
 30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

31
 32 Section 1. Section 15.0522, Florida Statutes, is created
 33 to read:

34 15.0522 Official state dessert.—Strawberry shortcake is
 35 designated as the official Florida state dessert.

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.