

## Senate Resolution 221

By: Senators Thompson of the 14th, Dugan of the 30th, Dolezal of the 27th, Miller of the 49th, Mullis of the 53rd and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March 28, 2019, as National Guard Day at the state capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense, headquartered at the Clay National Guard  
4 Center in Marietta, Georgia, includes the Georgia Army National Guard, the Georgia Air  
5 National Guard, and the Georgia State Defense Force; it provides combat-ready military  
6 forces to combatant commanders and, upon the order of the Governor, provides personnel  
7 to support civilian authorities when responding to natural or manmade disasters; and

8 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense consists of 10,890 Army National Guard  
9 soldiers, 2,915 Air National Guard airmen, 500 State Defense Force volunteers, and 650 state  
10 employees, and Georgia's Army National Guard is the eighth largest in the nation and trains  
11 in 70 hometown armories and regional facilities across the state; and

12 WHEREAS, the Georgia Air National Guard is the air power component of the State of  
13 Georgia with 2,915 airmen and officers assigned to the 116th Air Control Wing in Warner  
14 Robins, the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah, and seven geographically separated units  
15 throughout Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard deployed 3,500 soldiers and airmen to Afghanistan,  
17 Kuwait, Iraq, Guantanamo Bay, Jordan, the Country of Georgia, Argentina, Germany, and  
18 the Southwest border of the United States and throughout all geographic commands in  
19 support of combat operations; and

20 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard operates one of the most robust and successful  
21 Youth Challenge Programs with campuses at Fort Stewart, Fort Gordon, and Milledgeville,  
22 where more than 16,500 high school dropouts have graduated and have been given  
23 opportunities to receive a high school diploma or general educational development diploma;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Georgia's Youth Challenge Academy has been augmented by the addition of  
26 the Job Challenge Academy, which accepts selected Youth Challenge graduates and provides  
27 them with six months of technical training in vocational programs and has graduated 311  
28 students, 51 of whom have joined the military.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
30 commend the Georgia Department of Defense for their selfless service to their country,  
31 recognize the outstanding work by Georgia's Youth Challenge Program in helping young  
32 men and women secure a lasting future, and recognize March 28, 2019, as National Guard  
33 Day at the state capitol.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
35 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the  
36 press.