

Senate Resolution 42

By: Senators Hill of the 4th, Harbison of the 15th, Dugan of the 30th, Cowsert of the 46th, Hill of the 6th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing January 26, 2015, as National Guard Day at the capitol; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense (GA DOD) is a state agency in charge of
3 coordinating and supervising all agencies and functions of the Georgia National Guard; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense is located at the Clay National Guard
5 Center in Marietta, Georgia, and includes the Georgia Army National Guard, the Georgia Air
6 National Guard, and the Georgia State Defense Force; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the GA DOD employs over 11,040 Army National Guard Soldiers, 2,790 Air
8 National Guard Airmen, 583 State Defense Force members, and 535 state employees; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is the eighth largest in the nation with training
10 in more than 68 hometown armories and regional facilities across the state, and it includes
11 combat, combat support, and combat service support units; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is organized into six major subordinate
13 commands which are the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of Macon, the 78th Troop
14 Command, the 78th Aviation Troop Command, and 201st Regional Support Group at Clay
15 National Guard Center in Marietta, the 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade at the
16 Cumming Readiness Center, and the 648th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Fort Benning
17 in Columbus; and
- 18 WHEREAS, the Georgia Air National Guard is the air power component of the State of
19 Georgia with 2,790 airmen and officers assigned to the two flying wings and seven
20 geographically separated units throughout Georgia, and they play an active role in supporting
21 Georgia's homeland defense posture, providing airlift, engineering, and communications
22 resources and abilities; and

23 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Defense Force is a volunteer unit of the Georgia Department
24 of Defense, serving in support of the national and state constitutions under direction of the
25 Governor and the adjutant general of Georgia; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2014 alone, the Georgia National Guard deployed well over 2,300 soldiers
27 and airmen to the strategic locations of Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay, the Republic of
28 Georgia, South Korea, Benin, Uganda, Cameroon, Canada, Germany, El Salvador, and the
29 Southwest Border; flew over 6,900 combat hours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom;
30 and continued to support operations against the domestic threats within the State of Georgia;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard also operates one of the most robust and successful
33 Youth Challenge Academy (YCA) programs in the United States at Fort Stewart and Fort
34 Gordon, Georgia, where to date over 13,000 high school dropouts have graduated and have
35 been given opportunities to receive a high school diploma or general educational
36 development (GED) diploma; in addition, Georgia's YCA has been instrumental in helping
37 these young men and women secure a lasting future through assistance in employment
38 opportunities for the recent graduates; and

39 WHEREAS, the selfless and heroic actions of the Georgia National Guard stand as a shining
40 tribute to the strength of the human spirit, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the
41 outstanding accomplishments of these remarkable and distinguished Georgians be
42 appropriately recognized.

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
44 commend the men and women of the Georgia National Guard for their strength, leadership,
45 and courage in their willingness to find meaning in something greater than themselves and
46 recognize January 26, 2015, as National Guard Day at the capitol.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
48 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Georgia
49 National Guard.