

Senate Resolution 15

By: Senators Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Kennedy of the 18th, Dugan of the 30th, Brass of the 28th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 26, 2023, as National Guard Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense provides combat-ready military forces to
4 combatant commanders and, upon the order of the governor, provides disaster response
5 capabilities to support civilian authorities; and

6 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense, consisting of 10,700 Army National Guard
7 soldiers, is headquartered at the Clay National Guard Center in Marietta, Georgia, and
8 includes the Georgia Army National Guard; the Georgia Air National Guard, embodying
9 2,900 Air National Guard airmen; and the Georgia State Defense Force, including 500 state
10 employees; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is the eighth largest in the nation; it trains in
12 nearly 70 hometown armories and regional facilities in 55 counties across the state and
13 includes combat, combat support, and combat service support units; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is organized into five major subordinate
15 commands, which are the Macon-based 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team; the 648th

16 Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Fort Benning; and the 78th Troop Command, 78th
17 Aviation Troop Command, and 201st Regional Support Group at the Clay National Guard
18 Center in Marietta; and

19 WHEREAS, the Georgia Air National Guard is the air power component of the State of
20 Georgia with airmen and officers assigned to the 116th Air Control Wing in Warner Robins,
21 the 165th Airlift Wing in Savannah, and six geographically separated units throughout
22 Georgia, all of which play an active role in supporting Georgia's homeland defense posture
23 by providing command and control, airlift, engineering, and communications; and

24 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Defense Force is a wholly volunteer unit of the Georgia
25 Department of Defense that provides training assistance to the combat forces of the Georgia
26 Army and Air National Guard, disaster response for every declared emergency within the
27 State of Georgia, and search and rescue at the direction of the governor and the adjutant
28 general of Georgia; and

29 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard has deployed more than 30,000 soldiers and airmen
30 throughout all geographic combatant commands since September 11, 2001; maintained a
31 steady overseas presence in support of contingency operations; maintained state partnerships
32 with the Country of Georgia and Republic of Argentina; and supported disaster and
33 emergency response missions with 3,200 guardsmen and state defense force volunteers
34 within the State of Georgia due to winter storms, hurricanes, COVID-19, and civil unrest;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, from the earliest muster of Georgia's colonial militia in 1733 to the present day,
37 Georgia's citizens have volunteered to defend our state and nation in the Georgia National
38 Guard, balancing civilian and family interests with a cause greater than themselves, and it

39 is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of these remarkable
40 and distinguished Georgians be appropriately recognized.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
42 recognize January 26, 2023, as National Guard Day at the state capitol and commend the
43 men and women of the Georgia National Guard for their strength, leadership, and courage
44 in their willingness to find meaning in something greater than themselves.

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