

## Senate Resolution 775

By: Senators Hill of the 4th, Balfour of the 9th, Dugan of the 30th, Harbison of the 15th, Thompson of the 14th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 27, 2014, as National Guard Day at the capitol; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense is a state agency in charge of  
4 coordinating and supervising all agencies and functions of the Georgia National Guard;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense is located at Clay National Guard  
7 Center in Marietta, Georgia, and includes the Georgia Army National Guard, the Georgia  
8 Air National Guard, and the Georgia State Defense Force; and

9 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Defense employs over 11,000 Army National  
10 Guard soldiers, 3,000 Air National Guard airmen, 850 State Defense Force members, and  
11 460 state employees; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is the eighth largest in the nation with  
13 training in more than 68 hometown armories and regional facilities across the state; this  
14 includes combat, combat support, and combat service support units; and

15 WHEREAS, Georgia's Army National Guard is organized into six major subordinate  
16 commands: the 48th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of Macon, the 78th Troop  
17 Command, the 78th Aviation Troop Command, and the 201st Regimental Support Group  
18 at Clay National Center in Marietta, the 560th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade at the  
19 Cumming Readiness Center, and the 648th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade at Fort  
20 Benning in Columbus; and

21 WHEREAS, the Georgia Air National Guard is the air power component of the State of  
22 Georgia with 3,000 airmen and officers assigned to the two flying wings and seven  
23 geographically separated units throughout Georgia; they play an active role in supporting

24 Georgia's homeland defense posture, providing airlift, engineering, and communications  
25 resources and abilities; and

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

29 WHEREAS, in 2013 alone, the Georgia National Guard deployed well over 1,000  
30 soldiers and airmen to the strategic locations of Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay, the  
31 Republic of Georgia, South Korea, Benin, Uganda, Cameroon, Canada, Germany, El  
32 Salvador, and the Southwest Border; flew over 8,800 combat hours in support of  
33 Operation Enduring Freedom; and continued to support operations against the domestic  
34 threats within the State of Georgia; and

35 WHEREAS, the Georgia National Guard also operates one of the most robust and  
36 successful Youth Challenge Academy (YCA) programs in the United States at Fort  
37 Stewart and Fort Gordon, Georgia, where to date over 12,300 high school dropouts have  
38 graduated and have been given opportunities to receive a high school diploma or general  
39 educational development (GED) diploma; in addition, Georgia's YCA has been  
40 instrumental in helping these young men and women secure a lasting future through  
41 assistance in employment opportunities for the recent graduates; and

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

46 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this  
47 body commend the men and women of the Georgia National Guard for their strength,  
48 leadership, and courage in their willingness to find meaning in something greater than  
49 themselves and recognize January 27, 2014, as National Guard Day at the capitol.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
51 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia National Guard.