

## Senate Resolution 199

By: Senators Gooch of the 51st, Miller of the 49th, Dolezal of the 27th, Cowsert of the 46th, Tippins of the 37th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the accomplishments of the 89 students and faculty of the  
2 University of North Georgia CyberHawks team for claiming 1st place in the 2019 and 2020  
3 National Security Agency Codebreaker Challenge; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the University of North Georgia is recognized by the National Security Agency  
5 (NSA) and Department of Homeland Security as a National Center of Academic Excellence  
6 in Cyber Defense Education; and

7 WHEREAS, the University of North Georgia completed the competition above more than  
8 450 other universities from across the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, the NSA Codebreaker Challenge is the most challenging of the more than 25  
10 competitions in which the University of North Georgia CyberHawks team competes every  
11 year with over 200 members; and

12 WHEREAS, the NSA Codebreaker Challenge provides students with a hands-on opportunity  
13 to develop their reverse-engineering and low-level code analysis skills in a real-life scenario  
14 centered around the NSA's mission; and

15 WHEREAS, the student participants applied their advanced cyber skills to hack fitness  
16 trackers, drones, video surveillance equipment, and more to rescue a fictitious American  
17 journalist captured by a suspected terrorist organization overseas; and

18 WHEREAS, the University of North Georgia participants invested as many as 200 hours  
19 each over the course of the 100 day competition; and

20 WHEREAS, the University of North Georgia's success in the NSA Codebreaker Challenge  
21 can be attributed to the leadership and dedication of University of North Georgia President  
22 Bonita Jacobs, Provost Chaudron Gille, Dean Mary Gowan of the Mike Cottrell College of  
23 Business, Computer Science and Information Systems Department Head Ash Mady, Dr.  
24 Bryson Payne and the Center for Cyber Operations Education, Captain Caitlin Hirsch, Mr.  
25 Jacob Elliot, Dr. Tamirat Abegaz, and the six University of North Georgia CyberHawks team  
26 leaders.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
28 recognize the accomplishments of the 89 students and faculty of the University of North  
29 Georgia CyberHawks team for claiming 1st place in the 2019 and 2020 National Security  
30 Agency Codebreaker Challenge.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
32 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the 89 students and  
33 faculty of the University of North Georgia CyberHawks team.