

House Bill 208 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Cheokas of the 138th, Jasperse of the 11th, Erwin of the 28th, LaRiccia of the 169th, Jones of the 25th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 holidays and observances, so as to provide that the second Wednesday of February of each
3 year shall be designated as "National Swearing-in Commitment Day" in Georgia; to provide
4 for legislative findings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
5 other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 The General Assembly finds that:

- 9 (1) Since 1916, the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) has allowed young
10 men and women to experience a sample of military life. Members of JROTC are able to
11 familiarize themselves with the traditions, activities, and morals of the military and seek
12 out potential careers;
- 13 (2) Most of the activities in JROTC are awarded, sometimes publicly, at various
14 ceremonies, banquets, and other events. Rewarding success serves to motivate some and
15 move them toward a career in the military;

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(3) Likewise, colleges and universities reward athletes at the high school level with scholarships. Moreover, many athletes are recognized on signing days. Some signing days are attended by a large number of students, faculty, staff, and the community. The hard work and education of the athletes does not go unrecognized. Those who intend to join and start a career defending the nation should be acknowledged and supported on local, state, and national levels; and

(4) Putting such a day in place would build unity and support for all components (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Army National Guard, Air National Guard, and Coast Guard) of our national defense.

SECTION 2.

Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to holidays and observances, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"1-4-24.

The second Wednesday of February of each year is designated as 'National Swearing-in Commitment Day' in Georgia."

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.