

By Senator Altman

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Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring the men and women of the Florida National Guard and recognizing March 11, 2014, as "Florida National Guard Day."

WHEREAS, the Florida National Guard, the military arm of the Governor and the people of the State of Florida, stands ready to immediately respond to a call from the Governor in times of crisis or emergency, and

WHEREAS, tracing the roots of its citizen-soldier tradition to the first militia units formed in 1565 to protect St. Augustine, the Florida National Guard today boasts approximately 12,000 highly trained and skilled men and women who serve as soldiers and airmen, and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard and their families willingly make sacrifices during times of hurricanes, fires, floods, and other natural disasters, serving domestically and around the world in contingency operations, and

WHEREAS, more than 17,200 men and women of the Florida National Guard, without reservation, answered the call to federal active duty following the attack on our nation on September 11, 2001, and served with distinction and honor during Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and other contingencies, and

WHEREAS, the honorable service of the men and women of the Florida National Guard is truly an affirmation of the propriety of the recognition they so richly deserve for their faithful and successful service and for the well-placed trust of the residents of this state, and

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30 WHEREAS, the employers of the members of the Florida
31 National Guard and their family members have made significant
32 sacrifices in conducting their business during the absence of
33 key personnel and providing jobs for returning members, and

34 WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard
35 participate in hundreds of community service projects across the
36 state each day while preparing for their federal duty,
37 protecting the residents of this state during emergencies, and
38 contributing to local programs that add value to this nation and
39 this state, NOW, THEREFORE,

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41 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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43 That in honor of the significant contributions and
44 consistent readiness of the Florida National Guard and to
45 gratefully acknowledge the faithful service of its dedicated
46 soldiers and airmen, March 11, 2014, is recognized as "Florida
47 National Guard Day."

48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be
49 presented to Major General Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr., Adjutant
50 General of Florida, as a tangible token of the sentiments
51 expressed herein.