

By Senator Wright

14-03217-20

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Senate Resolution

A resolution honoring the Florida National Guard and recognizing March 3, 2020, as "Florida National Guard Day" in Florida.

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

WHEREAS, the Florida National Guard traces its lineage back 455 years to 1565 when the first muster of a civilian militia took place in St. Augustine, making Florida's militia the oldest in the nation, and

WHEREAS, today's Florida National Guard stands strong with approximately 11,000 of the best soldiers and airmen this nation has ever known, 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 21,000 men and women of the Florida National Guard have answered the call to federal active duty, without reservation, following the attack on our nation on September 11, 2001, serving with distinction and honor during Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn, and

WHEREAS, many of these dedicated men and women continue to serve in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Operation Inherent Resolve, and Operation Observant Compass,

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30 which continue to take them from their families and friends  
31 while they ensure that we are safe at home, and

32 WHEREAS, the employers and families of those serving in the  
33 National Guard have made significant sacrifices to conduct their  
34 businesses and support their households, respectively, during  
35 the absence of these men and women, with employers providing  
36 them jobs when they return home, and

37 WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard  
38 remain involved in hundreds of community service projects across  
39 the state each day while preparing for their federal duty,  
40 protecting the citizens of this state during emergencies, and  
41 contributing to local programs that enrich the lives of the  
42 people of this great state and nation, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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46 That the Florida National Guard is honored and that March  
47 3, 2020, is recognized as "Florida National Guard Day" in  
48 Florida.