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1 House Resolution 2 A resolution honoring the Florida National Guard and designating March 10, 2015, as "Florida National Guard 3 Day" in the State of Florida. 4 5 6 WHEREAS, as the military arm of the Governor and the people 7 of the State of Florida, in times of crisis or emergency, the 8 Florida National Guard stands ready to immediately respond to a 9 call from the Governor, and 10 WHEREAS, tracing its roots to the first militia units of the United States formed in 1565 to protect St. Augustine, the 11 12 Florida National Guard boasts approximately 12,000 highly trained and skilled men and women who serve as soldiers and 13 14 airmen in today's modern guard, and 15 WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard 16 and their families willingly make sacrifices during times of 17 hurricanes, fires, floods, and other natural disasters, and since the attack on our nation on September 11, 2001, more than 18 19 17,200 members have responded to the call of federal active 20 duty, serving domestically and around the world in contingency 21 operations, and 22 WHEREAS, in the largest deployment of the National Guard 23 since World War II, the men and women of the Florida National 24 Guard responded without reservation, serving with distinction 25 and honor for Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, 26 Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and other

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27 contingencies, affirming the propriety of the recognition they 28 so richly merit for their faithful and successful service and 29 for the well-placed trust of the residents of this state, and

30 WHEREAS, employers of the men and women of the Florida 31 National Guard have made significant sacrifices to conduct 32 business during their service, while still providing jobs for 33 those soldiers and airmen when they return home, and

34 WHEREAS, the men and women of the Florida National Guard 35 are currently involved in hundreds of community service projects 36 across the state each day while preparing for their federal 37 duty, upholding the Florida National Guard's mission to provide 38 military units and personnel ready to support United States national security objectives; protect life and property; 39 40 preserve peace, order, and public safety; and contribute to such 41 national, state, and local programs that add value to the United 42 States of America and the State of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

44 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of 45 Florida:

47 That in honor of the significant contributions and 48 consistent readiness of the Florida National Guard and to 49 gratefully acknowledge the faithful service of its dedicated 50 soldiers and airmen, March 10, 2015, is designated as "Florida 51 National Guard Day" in the State of Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{Page}\,2\,of\,3}$ 

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- 53 presented to Major General Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr., Adjutant
- 54 General of Florida, as a tangible token of the sentiments
- 55 expressed herein.