



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION NATIONAL GUARD DAY AT THE CAPITOL

WHEREAS: The Georgia Department of Defense (GA DOD) provides ready and relevant military forces to the Combatant Commanders and, with the consent of the Governor's office, provides command and control capabilities to support Homeland Defense and Defense Support to Civil Authorities. It employs over 11,050 Army National Guard Soldiers, 2,891 Air National Guard Airmen, 583 State Defense Force members, and 586 state employees; and

WHEREAS: Georgia's Army National Guard is the eighth largest in the nation, with training in more than 68 hometown armories and regional facilities across the state. It includes combat, combat support, and combat service support units; and

WHEREAS: The Georgia Air National Guard is the air power component of the State of Georgia with 2,891 airmen and officers assigned to the 116<sup>th</sup> Air Control Wing in Warner Robins, the 165<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing in Savannah, and seven geographically separated units throughout Georgia. They play an active role in supporting Georgia's homeland defense posture, providing airlift, engineering, and communications resources and abilities; and

WHEREAS: In 2015 alone, the Georgia National Guard deployed well over 600 Soldiers and Airmen to Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, Egypt, Qatar, Djibouti, the Republic of Georgia, South Korea, Latvia, the Pacific Rim, the Horn of Africa and the Southwest Border. The Georgia National Guard also continues to support operations against domestic threats within Georgia; and

WHEREAS: The selfless and heroic actions of those serving in the Georgia National Guard stand as a shining tribute to the strength of the human spirit, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of these remarkable and distinguished Georgians be appropriately recognized; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim January 25, 2016, as NATIONAL GUARD DAY AT THE CAPITOL in Georgia and thank all of the servicemen and women for their daily contributions to the betterment and safety of our beloved state.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF