

House Resolution 546

By: Representative Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the American Red Cross and proclaiming March, 2013, American Red Cross  
2 Month in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross plays a vital humanitarian role in Georgia by  
4 empowering tens of thousands of our caring citizens — "Hometown Heroes" — to make a  
5 difference each day by giving of their time, talent, money, and blood to help ease and prevent  
6 human suffering and to save lives down the street, across the country, and around the world;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the Red Cross, though not a government agency itself, is a valued partner that  
9 collaborates with Georgia's emergency planning community to respond to disasters of all  
10 types; and

11 WHEREAS, last year, through a state-wide network of 13 chapters, the Red Cross provided  
12 food, clothing, shelter, first aid, health care, and counseling to nearly 4,400 Georgia families  
13 following 3,100 local disasters, primarily home fires; and

14 WHEREAS, the Red Cross is saving lives in Georgia every day — last year alone, Red Cross  
15 Southern Blood Services collected, processed, and tested blood collected from generous  
16 donors state wide and distributed blood, including red blood cells and platelets, to more than  
17 120 Georgia hospitals; and

18 WHEREAS, last year, Red Cross training in programs such as First Aid, CPR, use of an  
19 AED, and Water Safety gave nearly 105,600 of our citizens the confidence and skills they  
20 need to respond to life-threatening emergencies; and

21 WHEREAS, as part of its humanitarian mission, the Red Cross provides the only worldwide  
22 communications link between service members and their loved ones; last year, the Red Cross  
23 helped 11,300 of Georgia's military families send emergency messages, get financial

24 assistance, find counseling, and get referrals, and briefed more than 74,300 family members  
25 on services available to them; and

26 WHEREAS, preparedness is a vital part of the Red Cross mission, and the Red Cross, in  
27 partnership with state and local agencies, is helping Georgia's families become safer,  
28 healthier, and better prepared for the unexpected, whether natural disasters, manmade threats,  
29 or health emergencies such as a pandemic flu outbreak; and

30 WHEREAS, it is fitting that this body recognize and celebrate the contributions of Georgia's  
31 Hometown Heroes — Red Cross volunteers, donors, partners, and employees.

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
33 the members of this body join the President of the United States, the Governor of the State  
34 of Georgia, and government officials across the country in proclaiming March, 2013,  
35 American Red Cross Month and call upon the citizens to support and honor this organization  
36 and recognize its proud heritage of service.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
38 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the American Red Cross.