

House Resolution 67

By: Representatives Belton of the 112th, Dempsey of the 13th, Newton of the 123rd, Parrish of the 158th, Gravley of the 67th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Red Cross and recognizing March 2021 as Red Cross Month in Georgia;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Red Cross plays a vital humanitarian role in Georgia and empowers millions
4 of our citizens to make a difference with lifesaving skills and donations of time, money, and
5 blood that ease human suffering down the street, across the country, and around the world;
6 and

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

10 WHEREAS, last year through a statewide network of eight chapters, Georgia's Red Cross
11 quickly and safely adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic and continued to mobilize volunteers
12 in person and virtually; it also provided emergency assistance and supplied essentials like
13 lodging, hot meals, new clothing, health services, and emotional support to 14,139 people
14 in response to 2,708 local disasters, which included 2,496 home and apartment fires;
15 tornados; flooding; and other severe weather-like disasters that were in the post landfall paths
16 of hurricanes Sally, Delta, and Zeta, which impacted hundreds of families; and

17 WHEREAS, the Southern Blood Services Region collected 175,593 blood donations from
18 generous volunteers in our state to help supply area hospitals and provided Red Cross
19 training in programs such as first aid, CPR, utilizing an AED, water safety, and care giving,
20 which gave 36,914 of our citizens the confidence and skills they needed to respond to
21 life-threatening emergencies; and

22 WHEREAS, as part of its humanitarian mission, the Red Cross provides the only worldwide
23 communications link between service members and their loved ones; the Red Cross further
24 provided casework services for 28,445 military families in Georgia by helping them send
25 emergency messages and acquire financial assistance, counseling, and referrals throughout
26 2020; and

27 WHEREAS, the Red Cross worked with community partners to reduce fire-related deaths
28 and injuries by installing more than 2,123 smoke alarms in vulnerable homes and helped
29 residents with fire escape plans as part of the Red Cross Sound the Alarm Campaign last
30 year; and

31 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper to honor the significant contributions made
32 by Georgia's Red Cross volunteers, who gave 394,730 hours of their time; bedside blood
33 donors; financial donors; partners; and employees serving in communities statewide.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
35 the members of this body commend the Red Cross for its efforts and recognize March 2021
36 as Red Cross Month in Georgia.

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
38 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
39 Red Cross.