

## House Resolution 605

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Oliver of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Brooks of the 55<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 53<sup>rd</sup>, Bennett of the 94<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing March, 2013 as American Red Cross Month in Georgia and inviting Red Cross  
2 staff and volunteers to be recognized by the House of Representatives; and for other  
3 purposes.

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

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

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

15 WHEREAS, the Red Cross is saving lives in Georgia every day — last year alone, Red Cross  
16 Southern Blood Services collected, processed, and tested blood collected from generous  
17 donors state wide and distributed blood, including red blood cells and platelets, to more than  
18 120 Georgia hospitals; and

19 WHEREAS, as part of its humanitarian mission, the Red Cross provides the only worldwide  
20 communications link between service members and their loved ones; last year, the Red Cross  
21 helped 11,300 of Georgia's military families send emergency messages, get financial  
22 assistance, find counseling, and get referrals, and briefed more than 74,300 family members  
23 on services available to them; and

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

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

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
31 the members of this body join the President of the United States, the Governor of the State  
32 of Georgia, and government officials across the country in proclaiming March, 2013,  
33 American Red Cross Month, call upon the citizens to support and honor this organization and  
34 recognize its proud heritage of service, and invite Red Cross staff and volunteers to be  
35 recognized by the House of Representatives at a date and time designated by the Speaker of  
36 the House of Representatives.

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.