

## House Resolution 235

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Ashe of the 56<sup>th</sup>, and Manning of the 32<sup>nd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the American Red Cross and proclaiming March, 2007, American Red Cross  
2 Month in Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross plays a vital humanitarian role in Georgia and is the  
4 organization through which tens of thousands of our caring citizens – "Hometown Heroes"  
5 – give freely of their time, talent, money, and blood to help ease and prevent human suffering  
6 and to save lives in our state, the nation, and the world; and

7 WHEREAS, the Red Cross, though not a government agency itself, collaborates with  
8 Georgia's emergency planning community to respond to disasters of all types and, last year,  
9 provided food, clothing, shelter, first aid, health care, and counseling to more than 4,500  
10 Georgia families following 3,300 disasters such as home fires, floods, and tornadoes, while  
11 continuing to help the many Gulf Coast families who are rebuilding their lives in our state  
12 following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; and

13 WHEREAS, the Red Cross is saving lives in Georgia every day – last year alone, Red Cross  
14 Blood Services collected more than 300,800 pints of blood from Georgia blood donors, who  
15 in turn saved up to 902,000 lives through their selfless generosity; and

16 WHEREAS, last year, the Red Cross training in programs such as first aid, CPR, use of an  
17 AED, and Water Safety gave more than 188,000 of our citizens the confidence and skills  
18 they need to respond to life-threatening emergencies; and

19 WHEREAS, as part of its humanitarian mission, the Red Cross provides the only world-wide  
20 communications link between service members and their loved ones, and last year, the Red  
21 Cross helped 20,700 of Georgia's military families send emergency messages, get financial  
22 assistance, find counseling and get referrals, and briefed 42,700 family members on services  
23 available to them; and

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

5 WHEREAS, it is fitting that this body recognize and celebrate the contributions of Georgia's  
6 Hometown Heroes – Red Cross volunteers, donors, partners, and employees, including those  
7 who are visiting the capitol on March 15, 2007.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
9 the members of the body join the President of the United States, the Governor of Georgia,  
10 and government officials across the country in proclaiming March, 2007, American Red  
11 Cross Month and call upon all citizens to support and honor this organization and recognize  
12 its proud heritage of service.