

Senate Resolution 1091

By: Senator Shafer of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the American Red Cross and recognizing March, 2010, as American Red
2 Cross Month at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross plays a vital humanitarian role in Georgia by
4 empowering tens of thousands of caring citizens known as "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 in our state, the nation, and the world; and

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

10 WHEREAS, last year, through a state-wide network of 21 chapters, the Red Cross provided
11 food, clothing, shelter, first aid, health care, and counseling to more than 4,400 Georgia
12 families following 3,074 local disasters; and

13 WHEREAS, the Red Cross brought compassionate relief to thousands of our neighbors
14 following historic flooding in the fall of 2009, when Red Cross volunteers from 37 states
15 joined forces to provide emergency assistance that changed lives in crisis to lives of hope;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, last year alone, Red Cross Southern Blood Services collected, processed, and
18 tested blood, including red blood cells and platelets, from Georgia blood donors and
19 distributed more than 513,000 units of life-saving blood to more than 120 Georgia hospitals;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, last year, Red Cross training in programs in such areas as first aid, CPR, use of
22 an AED, and water safety gave more than 147,000 Georgia citizens the confidence and skills
23 they need to respond to life-threatening emergencies; and

24 WHEREAS, as part of its humanitarian mission, the Red Cross provides the only worldwide
25 communications link between service members and their loved ones, and last year, the Red
26 Cross helped 17,170 of Georgia's military families send emergency messages, get financial
27 assistance, find counseling, and get referrals, and briefed more than 93,000 family members
28 on services available to them; and

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

33 WHEREAS, it is fitting that this body recognize and celebrate the contributions of Georgia's
34 Hometown Heroes, Red Cross volunteers, donors, partners, and employees, including those
35 visiting the capitol on March 10, 2010.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
37 recognize March, 2010, as American Red Cross Month at the state capitol and commend the
38 outstanding humanitarian aid provided by this organization and its proud heritage of service.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the American Red Cross.