

House Resolution 1510

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, Bruce of the 64th, Taylor of the 55th, Benfield of the 85th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the American Red Cross and proclaiming March 2010, 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 21 chapters, the Red Cross provided
12 food, clothing, shelter, first aid, health care, and counseling to more than 4,400 Georgia
13 families following 3,074 local disasters, primarily home fires; and

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

18 WHEREAS, the Red Cross is saving lives in Georgia every day —last year alone, Red Cross
19 Southern Blood Services collected, processed, and tested blood collected from generous
20 donors state wide and distributed more than 513,000 units of life-saving blood, including red
21 blood cells and platelets, to more than 120 Georgia hospitals; and

22 WHEREAS, last year, Red Cross training in programs such as First Aid, CPR, use of an
23 AED, and Water Safety gave nearly 147,000 of our citizens the confidence and skills they
24 need to respond to life-threatening emergencies; and

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

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

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

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
38 the members of this body join the President of the United States, the Governor of the State
39 of Georgia, and government officials across the country in proclaiming March, 2010,
40 American Red Cross Month and call upon the citizens to support and honor this organization
41 and recognize its proud heritage of service.

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