

House Resolution 413

By: Representatives Gardner of the 57th, Kaiser of the 59th, Crawford of the 16th, Morgan of the 39th, Ashe of the 56th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the American Red Cross and proclaiming March, 2011, 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 15 chapters, the Red Cross provided
12 food, clothing, shelter, first aid, health care, and counseling to nearly 3,500 Georgia families
13 following 2,600 local disasters, primarily home fires; and

14 WHEREAS, the Red Cross brought compassionate relief to thousands of our Georgia
15 neighbors following historic flooding in the fall of 2009 and in turn, helped Georgians
16 channel their compassion for the suffering people of Haiti through ongoing Red Cross relief
17 following the devastating earthquake of 2010; 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 503,500 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 132,000 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 16,800 of Georgia's military families send emergency messages, get financial
28 assistance, find counseling, and get referrals and briefed more than 90,000 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 16, 2011.

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, 2011,
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.