

By Senator Simmons

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing the critical mission of the American Red Cross in Florida and its Prepare Florida campaign.

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization founded in 1881 and originally chartered by Congress as a federal instrumentality in 1900, but receives no federal funding, and

WHEREAS, 2014 marks the 133rd anniversary of the American Red Cross and the centennial of the organization's first chartered chapter in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors, and

WHEREAS, American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, and 91 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to mission service delivery, and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has answered the call to assist and prepare Floridians before, during, and after disasters since 1901, and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross in Florida, composed of five regions, has developed a 3-year, multi-million dollar statewide preparedness campaign, and

WHEREAS, the Prepare Florida campaign has specific preparedness goals to increase feeding capacity from 250,000 to 500,000 meals per day; to increase outreach from 177,500 to 350,000 people; to increase volunteers from 4,500 to 10,000 trained community leaders; to train 500,000 people with life-

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30 saving first aid/CPR/AED skills; and to procure 15 new emergency
31 response vehicles over a 3-year period, and

32 WHEREAS, March is recognized as "American Red Cross Month"
33 across this nation, and

34 WHEREAS, the preparedness goals outlined in the American
35 Red Cross Prepare Florida campaign, and the organization's call
36 for every resident of this state to assemble a disaster
37 preparedness kit, make a plan, and be informed before a natural
38 or man-made disaster strikes will save lives, NOW, THEREFORE,

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40 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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42 That we recognize the critical mission of the American Red
43 Cross in Florida and its Prepare Florida campaign.