



2009 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 20

February 24, 2009 - Introduced by Representatives BALLWEG, BENEDICT, BIES, BROOKS, HEBL, HINTZ, KERKMAN, A. OTT, PASCH, PETROWSKI, POPE-ROBERTS, RIPP, M. WILLIAMS and ZEPNICK, cosponsored by Senators RISSER, COWLES, LEHMAN, KEDZIE, MILLER and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** declaring March 2009 American Red Cross Month.

2 Whereas, each year during the month of March we recognize the humanitarian
3 service and the lifesaving programs of the American Red Cross; and

4 Whereas, part of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the
5 American Red Cross was formed 125 years ago and chartered by the U.S. Congress
6 to provide aid and comfort in times of crisis; and

7 Whereas, since the early years of 20th century, the Red Cross in Wisconsin has
8 played a critical role in helping our citizens prevent, prepare for, and respond to
9 emergencies; and

10 Whereas, American Red Cross volunteers and staff responded to 1,099 local
11 disasters throughout the state of Wisconsin last year, providing emergency
12 assistance to 2,168 families affected by fire, flood, tornadoes, and other disasters. In
13 2008, 83,364 persons learned to prevent and prepare for disasters by participating
14 in Red Cross community disaster education programs; and

1 Whereas, 236,655 Wisconsin individuals are prepared to help their neighbors
2 in a crisis because they have been trained in Red Cross lifesaving classes. These
3 classes include CPR, use of automated external defibrillators, first aid, aquatics,
4 babysitting, and HIV/AIDS education; and

5 Whereas, Wisconsin Red Cross chapters served 153,662 people in 2008 through
6 a variety of community programs, including transportation services and initiatives
7 for low-income, elderly, and special-needs populations; and

8 Whereas, armed forces emergency services caseworkers transmitted 3,893
9 emergency messages between members of the armed forces and their families and
10 loved ones; and

11 Whereas, countless lives were saved last year because nearly 96,000 people
12 donated blood in Wisconsin and 45 Wisconsin hospitals were served by Red Cross
13 biomedical services; now, therefore, be it

14 ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the members of the
15 Wisconsin legislature proclaim the month of March 2009 as American Red Cross
16 Month in the state of Wisconsin, and commend this observance to all citizens; and,
17 be it further

18 ***Resolved, That*** the members of the legislature call upon our citizens to become
19 partners with the American Red Cross in emergency preparedness by learning how
20 to respond to emergencies and by donating blood, time, and financial resources in
21 support of the Red Cross mission; and, be it further

22 ***Resolved, That*** the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint
23 resolution to the American Red Cross.

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(END)