

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 24, 2010

**House Concurrent
Resolution No. 1051**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1051 - By: ARMES of the House and BASS of the Senate.

A Concurrent Resolution proclaiming March 1, 2010, to be Red Cross Day in Oklahoma; proclaiming March to be Red Cross Month in Oklahoma; and encouraging all Oklahomans to support the Red Cross and its mission.

1 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross fulfills a unique and vital role in our state,
2 providing help and hope in the face of emergencies and disaster, and is a true reflection
3 of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit of the American people; and

4 WHEREAS, whether it be in southwestern Oklahoma where Red Cross and Baptist
5 Disaster Relief teams partnered to feed nearly 25,000 meals to more than 3,000
6 individuals seeking shelter after their ice-ravaged communities were left in the dark for
7 almost two weeks, or in the streets of Haiti, where one of the largest humanitarian relief
8 efforts to date is being carried out by volunteers, the American Red Cross is as dedicated
9 to the mission today as it was during the days of Clara Barton; and

10 WHEREAS, for nearly 100 years, U.S. Presidents have called on the American
11 people to support the Red Cross and its humanitarian mission; and

1 WHEREAS, in World War I, President Woodrow Wilson ordered the Red Cross to
2 raise funds to support emergency aid to the military, as mandated by the Red Cross
3 Congressional Charter. At that time, the American Red Cross set a goal of
4 \$125,000,000.00 and in less than six weeks donations totaled nearly \$146,000,000.00, a
5 tribute to the overwhelming generosity of the American public; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1943, during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became
7 the first U.S. President to proclaim March as Red Cross Month and called on Americans
8 to “rededicate themselves to the splendid aims and activities of the Red Cross”.
9 President Roosevelt’s call to action nearly 70 years ago started a tradition of designating
10 March as Red Cross Month, a time to recognize and support the valuable work of the
11 American Red Cross by making a financial contribution, donating blood, taking a life-
12 saving class, or volunteering to help the Red Cross perform its mission; and

13 WHEREAS, every day, through its network of employees and nearly 10,000
14 volunteers in locations all across Oklahoma, the American Red Cross is there to save the
15 day when disaster strikes or when a neighbor’s house burns down; and

16 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross is there when someone needs life-saving blood
17 or needs the comfort of a helping hand; and

18 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross connects military families with their loved
19 ones in service and provides training in CPR, aquatics safety, and first aid; and

20 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross spreads humanitarian aid and goodwill to
21 people down the street, across the country, and around the world; and

UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.

1 WHEREAS, our state depends on the American Red Cross and because it is not a
2 government agency, the Red Cross depends on support from the public to continue its
3 humanitarian work. This is especially important in these challenging economic times for
4 the Red Cross and all Americans.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA
7 LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

8 THAT March 1, 2010, is hereby proclaimed to be “Red Cross Day” in Oklahoma.

9 THAT the month of March 2010 is hereby proclaimed to be “Red Cross Month” in
10 Oklahoma.

11 THAT all Oklahomans are hereby encouraged to support the American Red Cross
12 and its noble humanitarian mission.

13 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.