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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 299 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY VULAKOVICH, BAKER, COSTA, ARGALL, BARTOLOTTA,  
BROWNE, DINNIMAN, EICHELBERGER, FARNESE, FONTANA, GORDNER,  
GREENLEAF, HUTCHINSON, KITCHEN, MENSCH, RAFFERTY,  
RESCHENTHALER, SABATINA, SCAVELLO, TEPLITZ, WHITE AND  
YUDICHAK, MARCH 14, 2016

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INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 14, 2016

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A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2016 as "American Red Cross  
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, On May 21, 1881, Clara Barton founded the American  
4 Red Cross; and

5 WHEREAS, In 1900, the Congress of the United States granted  
6 the American Red Cross a charter, making the volunteer  
7 organization responsible for providing services to members of  
8 the armed forces of the United States and relief to disaster  
9 victims at home and abroad; and

10 WHEREAS, Today's American Red Cross is a humanitarian  
11 organization led by volunteers that provide relief to victims of  
12 disasters and help people prevent, prepare for and respond to  
13 emergencies; and

14 WHEREAS, For more than a century, the American Red Cross has  
15 assisted Americans in preventing, preparing and responding to  
16 large and small disasters; and

1 WHEREAS, Just as families and communities depend on the  
2 American Red Cross in times of need, the American Red Cross  
3 depends on the support of the American people to help sustain  
4 the foundation; and

5 WHEREAS, The American Red Cross strives to prevent and  
6 alleviate human suffering wherever it is found, to protect life  
7 and health and to ensure respect for each human being; and

8 WHEREAS, The American Red Cross provides services to all  
9 Americans in need, regardless of nationality, race, religious  
10 belief, class or political opinion; and

11 WHEREAS, Services provided by the American Red Cross promote  
12 mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2015, volunteers and staff from the  
15 American Red Cross responded to 2,479 disasters throughout this  
16 Commonwealth; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2015, 7,252 individuals served as volunteers for  
18 the American Red Cross in this Commonwealth; and

19 WHEREAS, In fiscal year 2015, the American Red Cross  
20 financially assisted 4,111 families across this Commonwealth;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Residents of this Commonwealth donated hundreds of  
23 thousands of units of blood to help save or better the lives of  
24 their neighbors; and

25 WHEREAS, The American Red Cross trained more than 225,000  
26 people in many different programs Statewide; and

27 WHEREAS, Approximately 132,000 individuals were trained in  
28 first aid, the proper way to perform CPR or the use of an  
29 automatic external defibrillator; and

30 WHEREAS, Approximately 44,000 individuals were trained in

1 aquatics and water safety and more than 46,000 individuals were  
2 trained in emergency preparedness; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2015, the Red Cross House, based in Philadelphia,  
4 housed 353 new families and provided 20,524 nights of shelter  
5 and served 61,572 meals; and

6 WHEREAS, This year's theme is "No More Fire Deaths," with the  
7 American Red Cross partnering with local fire departments to  
8 ensure that anyone that needs a working smoke alarm can get one;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The American Red Cross will continue to play a  
11 valuable role in catastrophic relief, humanitarianism and  
12 volunteerism during the 21st century; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of March 2016  
14 as "American Red Cross Month" in Pennsylvania; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Senate commend the American Red Cross and  
16 all of its employees and volunteers for their service and  
17 dedication to the communities and residents of this  
18 Commonwealth.