

2021 Assembly Joint Resolution 18

## **ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION**

**Relating to:** proclaiming the month of March 2021 as American Red Cross Month throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Whereas, since the early 1900s, the American Red Cross has played a critical role in helping the residents of Wisconsin prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies; and

Whereas, the American Red Cross volunteers and staff responded to 777 disasters throughout the state last year, providing emergency assistance to 1,470 families affected by fires, floods, tornadoes, and other disasters, which included opening numerous noncongregate COVID–19 safe shelters, opening virtual multiagency resource centers, reaching 1,912 youth from 1st to 3rd grade using virtual disaster education, distributing thousands of relief items, safely serving more than 7,000 meals and snacks, delivering over 500 cases of water, and providing 325 mental health contacts to respond to the local fires and summer floods; and

Whereas, in 2020, more than 1,912 households were made safer and thousands of persons learned to prevent and prepare for disasters through American Red Cross community disaster virtual and in–class education programs, which included the installation of 4,620 free smoke alarms to citizens' homes before the pandemic hit; and

Whereas, more than 60,979 Wisconsin citizens are prepared to help their neighbors during a crisis because they have been trained in Red Cross lifesaving classes, such as CPR, use of automated external defibrillators, first aid, aquatics, and babysitting; and

Whereas, last year, the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services caseworkers provided 6,103 services to military members, veterans, families, and loved ones; and

Whereas, countless lives were saved because over 174,453 people donated blood at 5,622 blood drives, and over 25 Wisconsin hospitals were served by Red Cross Biomedical Services; and

Whereas, the Red Cross is a partner with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Wisconsin Emergency Management, working to ensure that the people of Wisconsin are prepared for disasters; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That* the Wisconsin Legislature does hereby proclaim the month of March 2021 as American Red Cross Month throughout the state of Wisconsin.

enator Chris Kapenga	Representative Robin J. Vos
resident of the Senate	Speaker of the Assembly
Date	Edward A. Blazel