

**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD**

**TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-ONE**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2021 AS  
AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, March 2021 is American Red Cross Month, a special time to honor the kindness of our neighbors who help individuals and families in need every day in the State, across the United States and around the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Maine citizens are local, national and global humanitarians, even in the midst of a pandemic, carrying out the American Red Cross's 140-year mission of preventing and alleviating human suffering; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross aspires to turn compassion into action, and American Red Cross volunteers help others when there is a need; and

**WHEREAS**, during these trying times, Maine citizens in supporting the American Red Cross have helped their neighbors get back on their feet after devastating home fires, assisted communities across the country to face record-breaking hurricanes and wildfires and rolled up their sleeves to give blood when our country faced a severe blood shortage; and

**WHEREAS**, thanks to the American Red Cross's statewide community of volunteers and partners, people in the State facing a disaster can meet their basic emergency needs, including having access to safe shelter, food and critical health and mental health services, for free, day or night; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the American Red Cross's work, children and youths in the State know how to prepare for and stay safe during a disaster, people have working smoke alarms and emergency escape plans and there are always trained individuals nearby ready to use their skills to save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the American Red Cross's efforts and local communities hosting blood drives and donating life-saving blood, anyone can access life-saving blood and blood products and we have a stable blood supply that helped to extend or save the lives of more than 400,000 people last year; and

**WHEREAS**, military personnel, veterans and their families have access to global emergency communication services and the support they need to cope with deployments and reintegrating with the community because of the American Red Cross; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, pause in our deliberations, nearly 200 years since the birth of American Red Cross founder Clara Barton, to proclaim March 2021 as American Red Cross Month throughout the State and encourage all citizens of the State to participate in the humanitarian mission of the American Red Cross and advance Clara Barton's noble legacy.