

1 Introduced by Council Member White:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2022-129**

5 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH AS
6 NATIONAL RED CROSS MONTH AND COMMENDING THE
7 VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF OF THE NORTH FLORIDA REGION
8 FOR THEIR SERVICE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization
11 founded in 1881 and originally chartered by Congress as a federal
12 instrumentality in 1900, but receives no federal funding; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human
14 suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of
15 volunteers and the generosity of donors; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross responds to more than 60,000
17 disasters annually, and delivers vital services to members of the
18 Armed Forces, their families, and Veterans at home and overseas, and
19 provided lifesaving health and safety training to more than four
20 million people in 2021; and

21 **WHEREAS**, March is recognized as Red Cross Month across the Nation
22 and 2022 marks the 141st anniversary of the American Red Cross and
23 the 108th anniversary of Florida's first chartered Red Cross Chapter,
24 established here in Jacksonville, Florida; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross has repeatedly answered the call
26 to assist Northeast Florida, beginning with the Yellow Fever epidemic
27 of 1888, including support in Jacksonville to American troops during
28 the Spanish American War, then later providing relief to those
29 affected by Jacksonville's Great Fire of 1901; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the Northeast Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross
31 provides its humanitarian services across thirteen counties in

1 Northeast Florida and is the headquarters for the 35-county Red Cross
2 North Florida Region stretching from the First Coast across the entire
3 breadth of the Florida Panhandle; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Northeast Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross
5 in 2021 helped nearly 1,600 family members affected by more than 550
6 home fires or other disasters, hosted 60 blood drives throughout the
7 Region, including collections targeted at Sickle Cell Disease and
8 vital minority blood-type collections, and Regionally provided more
9 than 22,000 vital services to military members, veterans, and
10 families, and deployed more than 200 of its 1,200 volunteers in
11 response to hurricanes and other disasters; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross and its Northeast Florida
13 Chapter have delivered these vital services without interruption and
14 with scrupulous attention to client and volunteer safety throughout
15 the COVID-19 pandemic; and

16 **WHEREAS**, American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, and 90
17 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to mission service
18 delivery; now therefore

19 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

20 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby recognizes March 2022 as
21 National Red Cross Month, the 141st anniversary of the American Red
22 Cross, and the 108th Anniversary of the Northeast Florida Chapter of
23 the American Red Cross and commends the volunteers and paid staff of
24 the North Florida Region for their continuing humanitarian service
25 to our City and to the State of Florida.

26 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
27 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
28 without the Mayor's signature.

1 Form Approved:

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3 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

4 Office of General Counsel

5 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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