

1 Introduced by Council Member White and Co-Sponsored by Council Members
2 Salem, Morgan, Becton, Bowman, Diamond, DeFoor, Priestly Jackson,
3 Ferraro, Pittman & Freeman:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2022-129-A**

7 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH AS
8 NATIONAL RED CROSS MONTH AND COMMENDING THE
9 VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF OF THE NORTH FLORIDA REGION
10 FOR THEIR SERVICE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
11

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

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

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

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

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

1 **WHEREAS**, the Northeast Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross
2 provides its humanitarian services across thirteen counties in
3 Northeast Florida and is the headquarters for the 35-county Red Cross
4 North Florida Region stretching from the First Coast across the entire
5 breadth of the Florida Panhandle; and

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

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

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

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

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

28 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
29 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
30 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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