

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2016 as American Red Cross Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2016 as American Red Cross Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, For more than 70 years, United States presidents and governors around the country have recognized March as American Red Cross Month to thank this vital humanitarian organization and to urge the public to continue to support its work through volunteerism, financial contributions, or the donation of blood; and

WHEREAS, American Red Cross Month celebrates the everyday heroes who work tirelessly in times of disaster to offer the comfort of a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, The Red Cross, founded in 1881 by Clara Barton and chartered by the United States Congress in 1905, is one of our nation's oldest and most recognized humanitarian organizations, helping people prepare for emergencies, responding to disasters when they occur and helping victims rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS, In New York State, this esteemed nonprofit organization's 36 chapters, along with the New York-Penn Blood Services Region, have a long history of helping New Yorkers since the first chapter in the nation was established here in 1881; and

WHEREAS, For more than 100 years, the Red Cross in New York State has been where citizens join together, and their generosity and compassion finds purpose; New Yorkers have responded swiftly and generously during times of emergency, and in overwhelming numbers chose the Red Cross as the place to turn their caring into action; and

WHEREAS, On a daily basis, this remarkable institution helps make communities safer in these uncertain times through its disaster preparedness and response efforts; its volunteers are always among the first on the scene providing food, shelter, clothing and friendly faces for support; and

WHEREAS, The Red Cross also provides nationally recognized training in first aid and water safety, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), child care, and HIV/AIDS prevention; and

WHEREAS, As a vital part of its preparedness efforts, the Red Cross provides approximately half of the nation's blood supply and, through the New York-Penn Blood Services Region, provides the safest blood products possible to those in need throughout New York State; and

WHEREAS, The Red Cross continues to provide comfort and support to our military families and, working with the International Red Cross, collects and distributes funds to those suffering from the effects of civil unrest and natural disasters around the world; they have also spearheaded a campaign to immunize millions of children in developing countries who do not have access to life saving vaccines; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim March 2016 as American

Red Cross Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.