

By: Wong

H.R. No. 369

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For more than eight decades, 33 locally operated and
2 supported Texas chapters of the American Red Cross have assisted
3 disaster victims and provided information and education to help
4 individuals more effectively respond to emergencies; and

5 WHEREAS, In today's uncertain environment, the American Red
6 Cross has collaborated with the federal government and other
7 emergency-planning community partners to create Together We
8 Prepare; this basic, five-step initiative--to make a plan, build a
9 kit, get trained, volunteer, and give blood--shows how each of us
10 can make our communities, and ultimately our country, safer; and

11 WHEREAS, In the year 2002 alone, Texans helped each other by
12 making more than 102,000 blood donations, while over 33,500
13 volunteers assisted in the work of their local chapters; in
14 addition, nearly 508,000 individuals learned such lifesaving
15 skills as first aid, defibrillator use, and CPR; and

16 WHEREAS, American Red Cross services benefited myriad Texas
17 military families last year, as well as victims of more than 4,900
18 disasters, including fires, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, and
19 tornadoes; moreover, volunteers from the Lone Star State traveled
20 to other countries struck by natural disasters in order to help
21 people get access to safe drinking water and aid in the fight
22 against malnutrition and life-threatening diseases; and

23 WHEREAS, The American Red Cross has long been a major source
24 of comfort and support in time of emergency, and it is a privilege

1 to join in recognizing the organization's significant
2 contributions to the lives of Texans over the years; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 78th Texas
5 Legislature hereby recognize March 2003 as American Red Cross Month
6 in Texas and commend all those affiliated with this exemplary
7 organization for their outstanding efforts in promoting safety and
8 providing disaster relief.