

By: Allen

H.R. No. 821

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, For more than a century, the American Red Cross has  
2 made vital contributions to the people of the Lone Star State; and

3 WHEREAS, Established more than 137 years ago, the Red Cross  
4 is one of the largest humanitarian organizations in the world; its  
5 four regions in Texas are represented by 17 chapters and more than  
6 7,000 volunteers; in 2018, these men and women contributed nearly  
7 580,000 hours of their time and sweat equity to the welfare of their  
8 fellow citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, In recent history, the Red Cross responded to the  
10 tragic mass shootings at First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs  
11 in 2017 and Santa Fe High School in 2018 by setting up canteens for  
12 first responders and opening family reunification and family  
13 assistance centers; the organization also provided support to law  
14 enforcement and emergency personnel during the series of Austin  
15 package bombings in 2018; and

16 WHEREAS, All four regions of the Red Cross opened  
17 mega-shelters across the state for displaced families in the  
18 aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and offered long-term recovery  
19 assistance for hundreds of thousands of Texans; following the  
20 devastating tornadoes in North Texas in 2015, the organization  
21 supplied food and shelter as well as case workers who helped  
22 families connect with needed resources, and it regularly responds  
23 to floods in Central, South, and West Texas by providing shelter and  
24 cleaning kits to families whose homes were damaged by high water;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, In addition to its efforts during emergencies and  
3 natural disasters, the Red Cross works every day to benefit Texans;  
4 in 2018, it delivered 168,000 units of blood to hospitals, trained  
5 more than 205,000 people in first aid and CPR, helped over 6,900  
6 families after local emergencies such as house fires, installed  
7 more than 17,800 free smoke alarms in homes, and offered nearly  
8 44,000 services to veterans, serving military personnel, and their  
9 families; and

10 WHEREAS, Every day, across our state, the American Red Cross  
11 endeavors to prevent and alleviate the suffering of those in  
12 crisis, and the skill and compassion of its dedicated volunteers  
13 are truly deserving of special recognition; now, therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 86th Texas  
15 Legislature hereby commend the American Red Cross for its  
16 contributions to the people of Texas and extend to its staff and  
17 volunteers sincere best wishes for continued success in their  
18 important work; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
20 prepared for the American Red Cross as an expression of high regard  
21 by the Texas House of Representatives.