

By: Senator(s) Little

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 32

1 A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE MONTH OF MARCH 2006 IS
2 "AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH" IN MISSISSIPPI AND URGING CITIZENS TO
3 SUPPORT THE MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND ITS
4 LOCAL AFFILIATES.

5 WHEREAS, America has always been a place of humanitarian
6 action and compassion, a place where people take care of each
7 other, and are always willing to reach out and take care of others
8 in need, whether they are down the block or around the globe.
9 That American desire to put our compassion into action is deeply
10 rooted in the character of Mississippi; and

11 WHEREAS, for more than 88 years, the Red Cross in Mississippi
12 has been the place where citizens join together, and the
13 generosity and compassion of the American people finds purpose.
14 Our Red Cross chapters and their corps of 6,458 volunteers are
15 among the first on the scene, providing food, shelter, grief
16 counseling and more. During this past hurricane season alone, the
17 American Red Cross Chapters worked together with area citizens to
18 provide shelter to more than 9,400 and served over 42,300 meals
19 and snacks; and

20 WHEREAS, residents of Mississippi look to the American Red
21 Cross for many of the things that make our state stronger and
22 safer. Over 52,000 people turned to the Red Cross to learn
23 lifesaving skills such as first aid, CPR and aquatics and another
24 38,000 learned how to prepare for disasters. Red Cross community
25 sessions reached 10,709 Mississippians to inform them about risks
26 of HIV/AIDS, and 121 people have been trained to be HIV/AIDS
27 instructors; and

28 WHEREAS, the American Red Cross Chapters throughout
29 Mississippi continue to provide support and comfort to our
30 military families. In the last year they briefed 9,995 reserves,
31 National Guard troops and their family members on how to access
32 Red Cross services and connected loved ones separated by war and
33 conflict; and

34 WHEREAS, recognizing that suffering knows no borders, the Red
35 Cross provides assistance during international emergencies, such
36 as the tsunami. They have also spearheaded a campaign to immunize
37 millions of African children against measles, a disease nearly
38 forgotten in America, but a deadly killer in many other parts of
39 the world; and

40 WHEREAS, in America, we may not all look the same, dress the
41 same or sound the same, but we share a common spirit that binds us
42 together when times are tough and unites us in action when someone
43 is suffering. Like a mirror on America, the Red Cross shows us
44 the best possible reflection of ourselves. In celebrating
45 American Red Cross Month, we are celebrating the humanitarian and
46 volunteer spirit here in Mississippi and all across America:

47 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
48 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby acknowledge that the month of March
49 2006 is "American Red Cross Month" in the State of Mississippi,
50 and urge citizens to continue to volunteer their time, and give
51 generously to the Mississippi Chapter of the American Red Cross
52 and its local offices.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
54 the Mississippi Chapter of the American Red Cross and be made
55 available to the Capitol Press Corps.