

# Resolution

No. \_\_\_\_\_

## RECOGNIZING MARCH 2018 AS RED CROSS MONTH IN THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WHEREAS, the mission of the American Red Cross is to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors; and

WHEREAS, the mission of this humanitarian organization resonates with people and communities throughout the islands, across the nation, and around the world; and

WHEREAS, the vision of the American Red Cross, through its strong network of volunteers, donors, and partners, is to always be there in times of need, and turn compassion into action so that all people affected by disaster across the country and around the world receive care, shelter and hope; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Red Cross in Hawaii began in 1898, when 300 women, including Princess Kaiulani, cared for sick and wounded soldiers en route from the Philippines during the Spanish-American War; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawaii was officially chartered in 1917 during World War I and supported by Queen Liliuokalani, whose hand-sewn red cross flag flew over Iolani Palace, symbolizing her warm and hearty sympathy for the cause of humanity; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawaii celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service to the people of Hawaii on August 23, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawaii has assisted victims in every major disaster in the islands' history, including the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the 1960 Hilo tsunami, the November 1999 Xerox shooting on Oahu, volcanic eruptions, and Hurricanes Iwa, Iniki, and Iselle; and

WHEREAS, through its volunteers and staff, the American Red Cross of Hawaii has supported relief efforts across the mainland and

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around the world, such as the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center and Pentagon, and the 9.0-magnitude Tohoku earthquake and devastating tsunami that struck Japan on March 11, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawaii not only responds to various emergencies or disasters, it also provides support programs and key services to help improve lives within our island communities: and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawaii regularly provides communities on Maui with life-saving training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), the use of automated external defibrillators (AED), and first aid, aquatics safety, and disaster preparedness: and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawaii provides 24-hour support and emergency communication between military service members, veterans, and their families; international tracing services for families torn apart by war or disaster; and implements the Human Animal Bond Program at Tripler Army Medical Center through the use of therapy dogs to assist those recovering from social, mental, or physical illness: and

WHEREAS, the exceptional performance, dedication, and teamwork of the American Red Cross Hawaii Chapter, its district offices, and the numerous volunteers and benefactors who assist them have brought pride and honor to the people of the County of Maui; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it hereby recognizes the month of March as Red Cross Month in the County of Maui; and
2. That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to Michele Liberty, Director, Maui County Office, American Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter; Coralie Chun Matayoshi, Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross, Hawaii State Chapter; Herman Andaya, Emergency Management Officer, County of Maui; and the Honorable Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui.