

# Resolution

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

## RECOGNIZING MARCH 2019 AS RED CROSS MONTH IN THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WHEREAS, in recognition of the humanitarian role the American Red Cross plays in our communities, each year the President of the United States proclaims March as “Red Cross Month,” a tradition that began with President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1943; and

WHEREAS, Clara Burton, known as the “angel of the battlefield,” founded the American Red Cross on May 21, 1881, to lift those who are suffering, whether they are warriors wounded in the line of duty or families displaced by damaging storms; and

WHEREAS, the work of the Red Cross in Hawai`i began as early as 1898, when 300 women including Princess Ka`iulani, cared for sick and wounded soldiers en route from the Philippines during the Spanish-American War; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawai`i was officially chartered during World War I and was supported by Queen Lili`uokalani, whose hand-sewn red-cross flag flew over `Iolani Palace; and

WHEREAS, in Maui County, the American Red Cross works tirelessly to lend a helping hand when disaster strikes; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawai`i has assisted victims in every major disaster in the islands’ history, from the bombing of Pearl Harbor, to the 1960 Hilo tsunami, to the November 1999 Xerox shooting on O`ahu, to volcanic eruptions, and Hurricanes Iwa, Iniki, and Iselle; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawai`i has a tradition of volunteers and staff supporting relief efforts across the Mainland and around the world, such as in New York City after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and in Japan after the 8.9-magnitude earthquake and ensuing tsunami of March 11, 2011; and

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WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawai'i not only responds to various emergencies and disastrous situations, it also provides support programs and key services to help improve the lives of those within our communities; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawai'i regularly provides communities in Maui County with lifesaving training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (also known as CPR), automated external defibrillator (also known as AED), and first aid, aquatics safety, and disaster preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross of Hawai'i 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 implementing the Human Animal Bond Program at Tripler Army Medical Center with the use of therapy dogs to assist those recovering from social, mental, and physical illness; and

WHEREAS, the exceptional performance, dedication, and teamwork of the American Red Cross Hawai'i Chapter, its district offices, and its numerous volunteers and benefactors 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 recognizes March 2019 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 Hawai'i State Chapter; Coralie Chun Matayoshi, Chief Executive Officer, American Red Cross Hawai'i State Chapter; Herman Andaya, Maui County Emergency Management Administrator; and the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui.