

## 2015-J127

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 2015, as Blood Donor Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 2015, as Blood Donor Awareness Month in the State of New York, in conjunction with National Blood Donor Month; and

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross was founded in 1881 by Clara Barton and is the United States premier emergency response organization; and

WHEREAS, The American Red Cross is a vital part of a worldwide organization which offers neutral humanitarian care to the victims of war; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, approximately four million people give blood to the Red Cross, making it the largest supplier of blood and products in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood, has expanded its services, including Disaster Services, with which this vital organization supports victims of disasters such as fires, floods, earthquakes, heat waves and hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, This much needed support helps to pick up the pieces after the disaster and may take the form of medical help, food safety, water treatment, financial help, and emergency accommodation; and

WHEREAS, Blood Services offered by the American Red Cross serves more than three thousand hospitals throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Through its Communications Between Military Members and Families Services, the American Red Cross facilitates communication between those serving in the Armed Forces in important events around the world

and their family members back home; and

WHEREAS, The Health and Safety Services include health and safety training in a wide range of areas, from CPR and blood borne pathogens training to HIV/AIDS education; and from swimming and life guarding to American Red Cross Preparedness programs which help people lead healthier and safer lives; and

WHEREAS, The Red Cross' International Services consist of helping vulnerable people worldwide to prevent, prepare for and respond to: disasters, life-threatening health conditions, and complex humanitarian emergencies; and

WHEREAS, The Volunteer Services entail various opportunities to help the American Red Cross; these opportunities include: Disaster Services, HIV/AIDS mentoring, Health and Safety instructors, Blood donor recruiter, Youth group liaison, Speakers, and Special Projects; and

WHEREAS, Since its founding in 1917, the Red Cross has partnered with the Junior Red Cross in its Youth Services which includes: Disaster Response, Leadership Development, Health and Safety Services, Biomedical Services, School Related Activities, and International Services; and

WHEREAS, Over 30,000 nurses are involved in paid and volunteer capacities at all levels and in all service areas throughout the American Red Cross; its Nursing Services include: Functioning in governance roles; Teaching and development courses: including CPR, first aid, Nurse Assistant Training; and Direct services including local Disaster Action Teams, volunteering in military clinics and hospitals, first aid stations, blood collection teams and health fairs; and

WHEREAS, Blood Donor Awareness Month is a time to recognize all those outstanding individuals who have contributed so much to the advancement of blood donation, most particularly, to acknowledge and express our

deepest gratitude to those who donate their blood for their extraordinary generosity in giving the gift of life; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to

memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim January 2015, as Blood Donor Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.