SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

Relating to the recognition of the first Tuesday of every September as American Red Cross Blood Donation Day.

WHEREAS, prior to the beginning of World War II, the United States Congress requested the American Red Cross begin a national blood collection program to support the armed forces; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross Blood Services has grown into a national network that provides about 40 percent of the nation's blood; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross collects approximately 5.6 million blood donations nationwide each year from roughly 3.3 million volunteer donors; and

WHEREAS, in Missouri, the American Red Cross hosts more than 3,500 blood drives and collects more than 137,000 units of blood each year; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross is able to accomplish this in Missouri with the help of more than 2,000 volunteer sponsors and blood drive coordinators; and

WHEREAS, our communities depend on the American Red Cross and on voluntary blood donors:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-seventh General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby recognize the first Tuesday of September of each year as "American Red Cross Blood Donation Day"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution to the Governor for his approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.