

Luz Escamilla proposes the following substitute bill:

**Joint Resolution Recognizing National Blood Donor Month**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Luz Escamilla**

House Sponsor: Ryan D. Wilcox

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This resolution recognizes the month of January as National Blood Donor Month.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- recognizes the month of January as National Blood Donor Month in the state of Utah.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, more than 55 years ago, January was designated as National Blood Donor Month, as an annual observance to honor voluntary blood donors and encourage more people to donate blood at a time when blood supplies are historically low;

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has been serving the community with the collection and distribution of lifesaving blood and blood products to patients for more than 100 years;

WHEREAS, ARUP Blood Services is the sole blood provider to University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics and the Huntsman Cancer Institute, providing blood products for local patients in need;

WHEREAS, in our communities, the need for a diverse blood supply is constant, but the supply is not, making volunteer blood donors the foundation for ensuring a safe and stable supply of blood available to help meet the medical needs of patients;

WHEREAS, a blood transfusion occurs in the U.S. every two seconds, but only 3% of the age-eligible population donates blood;

WHEREAS, type O blood is often used in trauma situations, making it the most needed blood type and most likely to be in short supply during a blood emergency; and

30 WHEREAS, patients requiring blood transfusions include cancer patients, accident, burn,  
31 and trauma victims, newborn babies and their mothers, transplant recipients, surgery patients,  
32 chronically transfused patients suffering from sickle cell disease or thalassemia, and many  
33 more:

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah hereby  
35 recognizes the month of January as National Blood Donor Month in the state of Utah.

36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges all citizens to celebrate the cause  
37 of blood donation and recognize volunteer blood donors for their generous gifts.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges all eligible blood donors to  
39 donate regularly, and encourages businesses and organizations throughout the state of Utah to  
40 sponsor community-based blood drives and provide citizens of our state with the opportunity  
41 to give.