
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 280 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY MARTIN, DINNIMAN, FONTANA, ARGALL, WILLIAMS,
BROWNE, FARNESE, FOLMER, SABATINA, BREWSTER, YUDICHAK,
GORDNER, AUMENT, HUTCHINSON, BAKER, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH,
MENSCH, HUGHES AND BOSCOLA, MARCH 19, 2018

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 19, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing 2018 as the bicentennial anniversary of the birth of
2 Frederick Douglass and honoring the life and legacy of
3 Frederick Douglass and his contributions to the United States
4 of America.

5 WHEREAS, Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey was born in
6 February 1818 on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay in
7 Talbot County, Maryland; and

8 WHEREAS, After 20 years as a slave in Maryland, Frederick
9 Bailey fled to the North in 1838 and changed his name to
10 Frederick Douglass; and

11 WHEREAS, After escaping to Massachusetts, Frederick Douglass
12 became a preacher in an African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, In September 1838, Frederick Douglass married Anna
15 Murray, a free black woman from Baltimore; and

16 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass and Anna Murray Douglass had five
17 children: Rosetta Douglass, Lewis Henry Douglass, Frederick
18 Douglass, Jr., Charles Remond Douglass and Annie Douglass, who

1 died at 10 years of age; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1847, Frederick Douglass cofounded the North
3 Star, an antislavery newspaper; and

4 WHEREAS, In 1864, Frederick Douglass served as an advisor to
5 President Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1874, Frederick Douglass was appointed president
7 of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company, a bank chartered by
8 the Congress of the United States to safeguard the savings of
9 African-American Civil War veterans and former slaves; and

10 WHEREAS, Appointed by President Rutherford B. Hayes as the
11 United States Marshal for the District of Columbia in 1877,
12 Frederick Douglass became the first African American to receive
13 United States Senate confirmation for a presidential
14 appointment; and

15 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass authored three books, including
16 *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*
17 in 1845, *My Bondage and My Freedom* in 1855 and *Life and Times of*
18 *Frederick Douglass* in 1881; and

19 WHEREAS, After the death of Anna Murray Douglass in 1882,
20 Frederick Douglass married Helen Pitts in 1884; and

21 WHEREAS, In 1889, President Benjamin Harrison appointed
22 Frederick Douglass as the United States Minister to Haiti; and

23 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass delivered his last public lecture
24 at West Chester University on February 1, 1895; and

25 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass delivered his final speech at a
26 meeting of the National Council of Women in Washington, DC, on
27 February 20, 1895 and died at 77 years of age later that day;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, The Washington, DC, home of Frederick Douglass was
30 added to the National Park Service system on September 5, 1962,

1 and was designated a National Historic Site in 1988; and

2 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass was an abolitionist, author and
3 orator, delivering numerous culture-shifting speeches to
4 include, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July," "Self-Made
5 Men" and "The Hypocrisy of American Slavery"; and

6 WHEREAS, In 2013, the Congress of the United States installed
7 a statue of Frederick Douglass at the United States Capitol, in
8 Emancipation Hall; therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize 2018 as the bicentennial
10 anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass; and be it
11 further

12 RESOLVED, That the Senate honor the life and legacy of
13 Frederick Douglass and his contributions to the United States of
14 America.