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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 393 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, FONTANA, FARNESE, ARGALL, YUDICHAK,  
SANTARSIERO, PITTMAN AND HUTCHINSON, OCTOBER 2, 2020

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, OCTOBER 2, 2020

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A RESOLUTION

1 Commemorating the 125th anniversary of Frederick Douglass' last  
2 public lecture at the West Chester Normal School, now West  
3 Chester University.

4 WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass gave his last lecture at the West  
5 Chester Normal School 19 days before his death in 1895; and

6 WHEREAS, Douglass was a frequent guest speaker in West  
7 Chester after his escape from slavery in 1838; and

8 WHEREAS, Douglass' speech dealt with the evils of lynching,  
9 which was taking place in Pennsylvania and the United States;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Douglass serves as a stalwart example of the fight  
12 for civil liberties, both in his lifetime and still today, 125  
13 years later; and

14 WHEREAS, Douglass' life and teachings will continue to  
15 reverberate across generations, holding meaning to all those who  
16 contend with their own identities; and

17 WHEREAS, West Chester University has a monument in tribute to  
18 Douglass and has created the Frederick Douglass Institute, an

1 organization present on other Pennsylvania State System of  
2 Higher Education campuses; and

3 WHEREAS, The purpose of the Frederick Douglass Institute is  
4 to create academic programs based on Douglass' life and  
5 writings; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate commemorate the 125th anniversary  
7 of Frederick Douglass' last public lecture at the West Chester  
8 Normal School, now West Chester University; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate acknowledge the positive influence  
10 and powerful messaging of Frederick Douglass' lifetime of  
11 speeches and writing, summarized eloquently in his final  
12 lecture.