

Joint Resolution 2

(Senate Joint Resolution 6)

A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

Commemorating the Bicentennial of the Birth of Frederick Douglass

FOR the purpose of commemorating the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Douglass; providing that a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to certain individuals; and generally relating to the commemoration of the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Douglass.

WHEREAS, Born in Talbot County, Maryland, in 1818, as Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey, this great statesman's birth is celebrated by Americans each year on February 14; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 20, Frederick Douglass escaped slavery and became a noted abolitionist, preacher, and advocate of women's rights; and

WHEREAS, During the American Civil War, Frederick Douglass served as a consultant to President Abraham Lincoln; through this position, he was instrumental in African Americans being granted the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Douglass's works are considered classics of American autobiography; his memoir, "Narrative of the Life of Frederick, an American Slave", was influential in fueling the abolitionist movement in America; and

WHEREAS, He published two more autobiographies, "My Bondage and My Freedom" in 1855 and "Life and Times of Frederick Douglass" in 1881; and

WHEREAS, A true social reformer, Frederick Douglass died on February 20, 1895, in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, By commemorating the bicentennial of Frederick Douglass's birth, we honor his legacy and allow Marylanders to remember the life and legacy of this incredible man; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly commemorates the bicentennial of the birth of Frederick Douglass, the noted African American orator, abolitionist, and social reformer; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Signed by the President and the Speaker, May 8, 2018.