

## S 434

### Teaching Geography Is Fundamental Act

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Education

**Introduced:** Mar 2, 2011

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Mar 2, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/434>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** MS • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (22 total)

| Cosponsor                         | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]  | D · MD        |      | Mar 2, 2011  |
| Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]     | R · ME        |      | Mar 3, 2011  |
| Sen. Johanns, Mike [R-NE]         | R · NE        |      | Mar 3, 2011  |
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]     | D · VT        |      | Mar 3, 2011  |
| Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]      | I · VT        |      | Mar 3, 2011  |
| Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]      | R · MS        |      | Mar 3, 2011  |
| Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]       | R · AK        |      | Mar 28, 2011 |
| Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE] | D · DE        |      | May 2, 2011  |
| Sen. Conrad, Kent [D-ND]          | D · ND        |      | May 25, 2011 |
| Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]            | R · MO        |      | Jul 6, 2011  |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]      | D · NJ        |      | Sep 6, 2011  |
| Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]       | D · VA        |      | Sep 15, 2011 |
| Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]      | D · HI        |      | Oct 13, 2011 |
| Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]          | D · AK        |      | Mar 19, 2012 |
| Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]   | D · MD        |      | Apr 19, 2012 |
| Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]        | D · NM        |      | Apr 23, 2012 |
| Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]          | R · KS        |      | Apr 26, 2012 |
| Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]          | D · SD        |      | Jun 11, 2012 |
| Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]         | R · AR        |      | Jun 26, 2012 |
| Sen. Nelson, Ben [D-NE]           | D · NE        |      | Jun 27, 2012 |
| Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]     | R · ME        |      | Jul 12, 2012 |
| Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]    | D · CO        |      | Sep 11, 2012 |

## Committee Activity

| Committee  | Chamber | Activity    | Date        |
|--|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Mar 2, 2011 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Education

## Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Mar 2, 2011)

Teaching Geography is Fundamental Act - Amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a geography education grant program under title II (Teacher Quality Enhancement).

Authorizes the Secretary of Education to award a grant to a national nonprofit educational organization or consortium, with 75% to be used for matching subgrants to institutions of higher education associated with state geographic alliances, nonprofit educational organizations, or state or local educational agencies.

Requires program participants to use their grants and subgrants to enhance the geographic literacy of students in kindergarten through grade 12 by supporting specified activities, including: (1) educational research; (2) teacher training; (3) the development of effective teaching tools and learning materials; (4) the application of rigorous academic standards and assessment techniques; (5) comparative studies of world cultures, economies, and environments; and (6) the exchange of information regarding the state of geographic literacy and strategies for its improvement.

## Actions Timeline

- **Mar 2, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 2, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1129)
- **Mar 2, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.