# S 611

FCC TECH Act

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)
**Chamber:** Senate
**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications
**Introduced:** Mar 17, 2011
**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Mar 17, 2011)
**Official Text:** https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/611

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]
**Party:** Republican • **State:** ME • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA] | D · VA | | Mar 17, 2011 |

## Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee | Senate | Referred To | Mar 17, 2011 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Science, Technology, Communications

## Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|---|---|---|
| 112 HR 2102 | Related bill | **Jun 3, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. |

## Summary (as of Mar 17, 2011)

FCC Technical Expertise Capacity Heightening Act or the FCC TECH Act - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to permit each commissioner to appoint an electrical engineer or computer scientist to provide technical consultation and to interface with the Office of Engineering and Technology and other Federal Communications Commission (FCC) bureaus and technical staff.

Directs the FCC Chairman to enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences to complete a specified study of, and report on, FCC technical policy decisionmaking and the technical personnel at the FCC.

Requires the FCC to biennially (currently, annually) review and report on competitive market conditions with respect to domestic and international satellite communications services.

## Actions Timeline

- **Mar 17, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 17, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1832-1833)
- **Mar 17, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.