

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 249

Supporting K–12 geography education.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 4, 2011

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

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## RESOLUTION

Supporting K–12 geography education.

Whereas Congress is scheduled to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), commonly known as “No Child Left Behind”, for the first time in almost a decade;

Whereas geography is one of ten “core academic subjects” identified in the ESEA for which specific funding allocations and implementing programs are proposed to further its teaching at the K–12 level;

Whereas geography education is central to preparing students to be informed citizens of the United States and economically competitive in a rapidly globalizing world;

Whereas geotechnologies, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), GPS, photogrammetry, surveying, mapping, and remote sensing, have been identified by the

U.S. Department of Labor as one of the three most important emerging and evolving fields, with job opportunities growing and diversifying rapidly, creating substantial workforce growth as these technologies prove their value in ever more areas; and

Whereas employers in all sectors, including private companies, government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations have indicated that there is a pressing need for more students graduating today with the geographic science and geospatial skills needed to support a rapidly growing field: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) urges the Administration to include geog-  
3       raphy and geospatial education in its Science, Tech-  
4       nology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and  
5       Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)  
6       Blueprint for Reform proposals;

7               (2) urges Congress to include authorizations  
8       and appropriations for geography education con-  
9       sistent with other core academic subjects for K–12,  
10       as part of a reauthorized ESEA; and

11              (3) urges Congress to enhance geography teach-  
12       er training by passing legislation such as the Teach-  
13       ing Geography is Fundamental Act.

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