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Biography of Edmund Mierzwinski, U.S. PIRG Consumer Program Director and Senior Fellow

Ed Mierzwinski has worked in the Washington, DC-based federal lobbying office of the Federation of State Public Interest Research Groups (U.S. PIRG) since 1989. He often lectures or testifies before Congress, state legislatures and agencies on a wide range of consumer issues, from credit card rates and privacy to product safety and airline passenger rights. He has published reports on numerous consumer issues, including Big Data's impact on financial opportunity, the CFPB Public Consumer Complaint Database, internet privacy, identity theft and credit reporting mistakes. He is co-author of a Model State Data Breach, Security Freeze and Identity Theft Law available on SSRN. He has had recent articles in the *American Prospect*, the *Journal of Consumer Affairs* and the *Suffolk University Law Review*.

He is a 2003 recipient of Privacy International's "Brandeis Award" for privacy protection efforts and a 2006 recipient of the Consumer Federation of America's "Esther Peterson Consumer Service Award." For the last 5 years, "The Hill" newspaper has selected him as a "Top Lobbyist" awardee and, in 2011, *Bloomberg Businessweek* selected him as one of "15 Power Brokers: Regulators, lawmakers and lobbyists shaping the torrent of regulations."

In August 2012, he was re-elected to a second 3-year term on the board of directors of Consumer Reports (formerly Consumers Union), the world's largest consumer product testing and advocacy organization. He chairs the Americans for Financial Reform (AFR) Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Task Force. He is a founding and current member of the Steering Committee of the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (tacd.org). He is on the board of directors of Flyersrights.org. He is a former member of the Federal Reserve Board's Consumer Advisory Council. He is a graduate of the University of Connecticut (BA, MS) and previously was Executive Director of the Connecticut PIRG.

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