

Short Narrative Biography

ERIC FISCHER is the Senior Specialist in Science and Technology at the Congressional Research. As a senior policy analyst at CRS, he provides expert written and consultative support to Congress on a broad range of issues in science and technology policy, including cybersecurity, election reform, environment, research and development, and other topics. He has authored more than 30 CRS reports and more than 100 analytical memoranda for congressional offices on those subjects and has provided analytical support to Congress on cybersecurity for more than 10 years. As a Library of Congress official, he also served as head of the former science policy division of CRS and has been active in strategic planning and other management activities at the Library.

Dr. Fischer received a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Yale University in 1970 and a PhD in zoology from the University of California Berkeley in 1979. After a National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Sussex in England, he joined the faculty in psychology at the University of Washington in Seattle, where he continued his research on the ecology of marine fishes. In 1987, he was selected as a Congressional Science and Technology Policy Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and worked with the Senate Budget Committee. In 1988, he became Deputy Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. In 1990, he joined the National Audubon Society as Senior Vice President for Science and Sanctuaries. From 1992 to 1996, Dr. Fischer was Director of the Board on Biology and the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources at the National Research Council. He has been at CRS since 2007. He also served from 1993 to 2008 as a consultant to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, fostering dialogue among scientific and religious leaders on topics of common interest such as evolution, environment, genetic research, and end-of-life medical care.