Belzer, Richard

Independent consultant

Since 2001, Dr. Richard Belzer has been an independent consultant in regulation, risk, economics and information quality. Previously he was a visiting professor of public policy at Washington University in St. Louis and staff economist in the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs in the Office of Management and Budget. He received his Ph.D. in public policy from Harvard University (1989), Master's in Public Policy (MPP) from the John F. Kennedy School of Government (now Harvard Kennedy School) (1982), and MS and BS degrees in agricultural economics from the University of California at Davis (1979, 1980). Current original research areas include the measurement and estimation of Type I and Type II errors in the identification, placement, and discipline of children with disabilities; the analysis of benefits and costs from banning glider vehicles from the heavy-duty truck market; the development of statutorily appropriate measures of economic feasibility under the Safe Drinking Water Act; the analysis of variability in pulmonary function testing; the development of objective economic indicators to identify adverse human health effects; the improved use of human health risk assessments as inputs to benefit-cost analysis; the analysis of environmental justice ranking schemes; the analysis of patent law and examination practices; the estimation of potential cost reductions to state Medicaid programs from the substitution of electronic for tobacco cigarettes; and the economic value of subjective quality information in U.S. wine markets. Recent consulting projects have included a benefit-cost analysis of rescinding the ban on gliders from the heavyduty truck market; reviews of California's proposed drinking water standards for hexavalent chromium and 1, 2, 3-trichloropropane; and the critique of predicted human health impacts and monetized risks attributable to air emissions from new facilities designed to achieve federal regulatory standards. Dr. Belzer is a regular contributor to scholarly professions through journal peer review and service to professional societies. He was elected Treasurer of the Society for Risk Analysis (1998, 2000) and elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis (2008, 2010). He earned multiple awards for exemplary performance at OMB, given the SRA's Distinguished Service Award (2003), and named a Fellow of the Cecil and Ida Green Center for the Study of Science and Society (1995). He has not received any grants from EPA, any other government agency, or any private entity. He has conducted independent research on behalf of clients or through self-funding; some projects are jointly funded. His clients since 2015 include: Fitzgerald Glider Kits LLC, the American Chemistry Council, the California Manufacturing Technology Association, the R Street Institute, and Exxon Mobil Biomedical Sciences, Inc.