

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Scott D. Ballin has spent more than 25 years involved in issues related to tobacco and public health. He has worked on a spectrum of tobacco issues ranging from labeling reforms on cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products, FDA regulation of tobacco, excise tax increases, enactment of clean indoor air laws, and tobacco agricultural reforms.

For more than 10 years he served as the American Heart Association's Vice President and Legislative Counsel, as a Steering Committee Member and two-time Chairman of the Coalition on Smoking Or Health (ACS, AHA, ALA) which was the first truly active national coalition in the tobacco control movement. He has provided advise and consulting to the American Lung Association, the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, and Star Scientific, Inc. Most recently he has and continues to serve on the Steering Committee of the Alliance for Health Economic and Agriculture Development, an informal organization formed to bring parties together to work for the enactment of recommendations contained in the Presidential Commission report, [Tobacco at a Crossroad](#). He remains a strong advocate for bringing parties together in neutral forums in order to discuss controversial issues, to remove barriers, to foster constructive dialogue, to look for new opportunities, and to find areas of common ground.

He is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, and a graduate of the George Mason School of Law in Arlington, VA.

ABOUT THE PAPER

Although this paper contains many excerpts from numerous published scientific papers, the paper is not intended to be a scientific paper. It is intended to raise awareness, educate and stimulate discussion about a spectrum of issues that need to be considered if there is to any real effort to move tobacco harm reduction forward in a meaningful way. The readership audience is intended to include a very broad spectrum of interests including but not limited to public health advocates, scientists, industry, tobacco producers, consumers, human rights experts, economists, biotech companies, agronomists, policy makers, media and the general public. It is hoped that the paper will encourage new thinking and new leadership from the myriad of interested parties. The views expressed in this paper represent the views of the author and the author only. No organization or individual has dictated any expectations for or from this paper nor has any funding been provided for the writing of this paper. The author has no intention of restricting access or use of the paper and would welcome any and all interested organizations and other entities participation in producing and distributing copies. The author does reserve the right to seek publication of any and all parts of this paper, including an executive summary or the authoring of any other papers, articles or books related to the contents of this paper.

DEDICATION

This Paper is Dedicated to My Friends and Colleagues

The Honorable Michael Synar (D-OK)
John Slade, MD

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I wish to also acknowledge the many people, but particularly eight individuals both inside and outside the tobacco arena who encouraged the writing of this paper and who provided valuable insights and comments from many different perspectives.