

industries that range from automobile parts manufacturing to high-tech biomedical innovation centers to agriculture.

Since 2011, Fred has served as chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Prior to his election to Congress, Fred worked for President Ronald Reagan in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). While at OMB, he learned from President Reagan's example that it does not matter who gets the credit, as long as the job gets done. That has been Fred's approach as chairman—every good idea is welcome, and the committee has plenty of bipartisan success to show for it.

For the committee, Fred is focused on three primary goals of promoting job creation and economic growth, transforming Washington to create a smaller, modernized government for the innovation era, and protecting families, communities, and civic initiatives.

The committee has built a significant record of results on public health issues. Among those achievements is legislation to advance research for children with rare and genetic diseases, strengthen the prescription drug supply chain in order to protect families against counterfeit drugs (Title II of the Drug Quality and Security Act), and streamline the federal approval process for new and generic drugs.

In 2014, Fred unveiled the bipartisan 21st Century Cures initiative, a multiyear effort that aims to accelerate the pace of cures and medical breakthroughs in the United States. The committee is taking a comprehensive look at the full arc of accelerating cures to help provide patients with better access to treatments and trials, and to ensure the United States maintains its leadership role in health research and care. As we discussed in Chapter 9, the need for faster FDA trials and streamlined processes for new drugs is very high.

Fred was born on April 23, 1953, and holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Michigan. He and his wife, Amey, have two children.⁷

**DAVID JOSEPH BALLARD, CHIEF QUALITY OFFICER,
BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE HEALTH**

When I first met David, we were on an airplane going to the East Coast and I had the pleasure of sitting next to him. It took maybe five minutes