



Association of American Cancer Institutes Statement on Selection of Representative Tom Cole as House Appropriations Committee Chair

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) applauds the selection of U.S. Representative **Tom Cole (R-OK)** as the new chair of the House Committee on Appropriations.

Since he was elected to Congress in 2002, Rep. Cole has been a champion for medical research, as a member—and later, chair—of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. He is a longtime advocate of increased funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and has stated that federal support for medical research “quickens the pace of research, offers the chance to bring to market new and innovative therapies, and supports local economies where such research is conducted.”

Rep. Cole has also demonstrated strong support for cancer research and public awareness of pediatric cancers. He served as a member of the Congressional Childhood Cancer Caucus and co-sponsored the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2007, which aimed to advance medical research and treatments for pediatric cancers and establish a population-based national childhood cancer database.

In 2016, Rep. Cole worked with Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) to fund the national Cancer Moonshot initiative launched by Joe Biden during his second term as vice president. Also in 2016, AACI recognized Rep. Cole with its Public Service Award, which honors public servants who are supporters of the NIH, the National Cancer Institute, and the cancer centers in their respective states.

For over 20 years, Rep. Cole has established a record of strong leadership and advocacy for medical research. AACI is confident that he will work across the aisle with his colleagues in Congress to ensure continued, robust investment in cancer research.