

Tom Cole was elected to Congress in 2002 and is currently serving in his seventh term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He is an advocate for strong national defense, a tireless advocate for taxpayers and small businesses. He is also a leader on issues dealing with Native Americans and tribal governments.

Cole is widely regarded as one of the GOP's top political strategists. He served as Executive Director of the National Republican Congressional Committee in the 1992 cycle. He also served as the Chief of Staff of the Republican National Committee during the historic 2000 cycle in which Republicans won the presidency, the Senate and the House for the first time in 48 years. In the 2008 cycle, Cole served as Chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee. Before Congress, he served Oklahoma as a State Senator and Oklahoma's Secretary of State.

Cole is a member of three influential House committees, including the Appropriations, Budget and Rules Committees; he is Chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. He also serves as a Deputy Whip for the Republican Conference and is a member of the Republican Steering Committee.

Tom Cole is a fifth generation Oklahoman and an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation. He and his wife, Ellen, have one son and reside in Moore, Oklahoma.