

# Tulsa World

Posted December 25, 2016

## **Cole helped put recent cancer act over the top**

The 21st Century Cures Act signed into law Dec. 13 is an important step toward finding how to stop cancer. It was approved by strong bipartisan vote in Congress. Oklahoma Rep. Tom Cole took the lead in the act's passage, which also has a major increase in federal funding of cancer research. The act provides for faster Food and Drug Administration review and approval of new treatments for cancer and other diseases. An additional \$1.8 billion will be appropriated to the National Institutes of Health and National Cancer Institute for "Cancer Moonshot" initiative recommendations to improve and accelerate cancer research.

The Stephenson Cancer Center at the University of Oklahoma will likely participate in research projects offering new treatments funded and approved under the act.

*Sheppard F. Miers Jr., Tulsa*

Editor's note: Miers is director of the Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research.