

OKLAHOMA CITY — The pending Republican takeover of the U.S. House could increase the influence of Oklahoma's congressional delegation. Four of Oklahoma's five House members are Republicans, including Lankford, who was elected Tuesday to replace Mary Fallin as the representative from the state's 5th District. Rep. Frank Lucas of Cheyenne, the state's longest-tenured House member, is in line to become the chairman of the Agriculture Committee. He would be the first Oklahoman to lead a standing House committee since Tom Steed, a Democrat who led the Small Business Committee in the mid-1970s. Rep. Tom Cole of Moore already is on the Appropriations Committee and Rep. John Sullivan of Tulsa could be in line to become the chairman of a subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce committee.