

Crowell & Moring Hires Senior Health Atty From Capitol Hill

By Jack Rodgers

Law360 (April 9, 2024, 11:49 AM EDT) -- Crowell & Moring LLP has hired a health care attorney from the U.S. House of Representatives who most recently served as a senior counsel in that body's Committee on Energy & Commerce, the firm announced Tuesday.

Stephen Holland joins Crowell & Moring's team in Washington, D.C., as a senior counsel, after most recently assisting Rep. Frank Pallone, D-N.J. — the Energy & Commerce Committee's ranking Democrat member — on health and other related legal matters on the committee.

Holland will continue that work as part of Crowell & Moring's government affairs group, advising clients on public policy initiatives related to healthcare that get their genesis in Congress.

Holland also will advise clients on federal regulations impacting the healthcare industry, like those focused on medical devices, vaccines and regulations affecting clients that work in the pharmaceutical industry, the firm said.

Holland will draw on a range of experience working with major healthcare issues, which includes prior experience helping negotiate and draft the Food and Drug Omnibus Reform Act of 2022, and the FDA user fee reauthorization, the firm said.

Crowell & Moring noted Holland will work alongside his former colleague Tyler O'Connor, another former House Energy & Commerce Committee counsel, who joined the firm as a partner in 2022.

In an interview with Law360 Pulse on Tuesday, Holland said when he was looking for his next opportunity, he knew he wanted to move to a platform with a great reputation, that had a focus on healthcare and was bipartisan.

Crowell & Moring has all those qualities, Holland said, adding that he was looking forward to working with O'Connor and the firm's healthcare regulatory practice.

"I think we're really interested in seeing how we can use our common experience on Energy & Commerce to serve a diverse array of clients," Holland said. "He's definitely a value add to our team and I'm excited to continue to work with him."



Stephen Holland

Holland told Law360 Pulse he wanted to take his first role in private practice with Crowell & Moring for several reasons, including the firm's reputation.

"I wanted to come somewhere where clients could come in and ensure that they're going to get comprehensive services that met their needs, and that there was really, no wrong door for them to come in," Holland said. "I think Crowell checked all of those boxes."

Holland's work in the House included helping secure billions of dollars for the research, development, distribution and promotion of vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Holland noted his work with vaccine promotion actually began before the pandemic, in 2019, when he first started with the committee and when measles was being reported across 31 states. It was the highest number of reported cases of the disease since 1992, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Healthcare promotion-related work has been at the core of his work throughout the entirety of his time on Capitol Hill, which will continue with Crowell & Moring, he said.

Holland's work on the Hill included negotiating money as part of the CARES Act for diagnostic tests, the Fiscal Year 2021 Omnibus bill and the American Rescue Plan Act, the firm said.

A Washington and Lee University School of Law graduate, Holland held several internship and clerk roles related to his eventual work in Congress before earning his degree.

That work includes having served as an intern for Kurt Schrader, a former House Representative from Oregon, and as a law clerk for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Office of Regional Counsel, and as a legal intern with that agency's Board of Veterans' Appeals, according to his LinkedIn profile.

Holland told Law360 Pulse he was one of two interns to serve on Schrader's first election campaign.

Holland began his career in the House as a legislative fellow, and in 2013 joined Schrader's office as a counsel. Holland said when he first came to Capitol Hill, he was on a fellowship funded by his law school, which supported his goals of working in public service.

"I went back to [Schrader's office] and said, you know, 'Hey, I have this fellowship, if you know anybody,' and they said, 'Yeah, we'd love to have you, if you'd come and work for free,'" Holland said.

He later joined the Committee on Energy & Commerce in 2019 as a health counsel and was made a senior health counsel in 2021, according to his LinkedIn profile.

"I'm super excited to be part of this team, I think we've got a lot of folks with good bipartisan experience, and I'm excited that we are continuing to grow," Holland said.

James G. Flood, co-chair of Crowell & Moring's government affairs group and the former counsel to Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said in a statement that Holland would bring "instant credibility and gravitas in the health care and FDA arenas."

"He enhances our ability to provide a 360-degree perspective to our clients because he has firsthand knowledge of how health care legislation and policy are made and the levers of Congress work," Flood

said in a statement.

Aaron C. Cummings, also a co-chair of Crowell's government affairs group and a former chief of staff to Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, said in a statement that Holland's practice would be an immediate benefit to the firm's clients.

"Health care is one of the key pillars of our government affairs practice and Stephen's time on Capitol Hill, combined with his relationships on both sides of the aisle, will be a great value-add for our clients," Cummings said in a statement.

--Editing by Alyssa Miller.

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