Holland & Hart



Charles Cogar

Senior Director of Federal Affairs

505 9th St. NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004

P 202.654.6922

cecogar@hollandhart.com

A senior strategist with 25+ years of bicameral Congressional leadership experience, Charles delivers insights, connections, and legislative know-how to help clients succeed in the federal political landscape.

Charles Cogar was a senior advisor to full committee Chairs in both the House and Senate. He has experience with both the technical aspects of the committee investigation process and the broader political and public relations implications, as well as managing the media and strategy behind them.

With extensive experience serving influential members of both the House and Senate during majority and minority control, Charles brings deep insight into Congressional dynamics and federal decision-making processes. Most recently served as Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Tim Scott, Chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, and the National Republican Senatorial Committee, overseeing legislative operations and leading strategic planning, media campaigns, and crisis management. He also served as the Senator's representative to other members of Congress, CEOs, and foreign dignitaries, building the high-level relationships and credibility that enable him to facilitate client access to key decision-makers and navigate complex federal processes.

Charles understands the intricacies of modern Congressional culture and political dynamics, guiding clients through both the ideal and actual legislative process. His comprehensive knowledge of the interplay between legislative and executive branches positions him to craft advocacy strategies that leverage the right pressure points for moving legislation, securing appropriations, and conducting oversight. Clients benefit from his ability to leverage across-the-aisle relationships and identify the most effective pathways to achieve their federal objectives in today's political environment.

Charles cultivated these relationships through decades of legislative work and participation in prestigious bipartisan programs including the Woodrow Wilson Foreign Policy, Council on Foreign Relations Congressional Study Group, Aspen Institute Legislative Exchange, US-Japan Congressional Staff Exchange Program, and Stennis Congressional Staff Fellowship, among others.

Charles brings specialized expertise in critical policy areas including banking and financial services, cryptocurrency regulation, energy and natural resources, trade and tariffs, tax policy, and federal appropriations.

PRACTICES

Federal Affairs
Government
Congressional Oversight and Investigations

INDUSTRIES

Financial Institutions
Energy and Resources
Mining
Oil and Gas

EDUCATION

University of Northern Colorado, B.A.

Harvard University Kennedy School of Government
Negotiation and Advanced Negotiation
Capitol Hill Program
U.S.-China Working Group and U.S.-Asia Institute
China, Japan, and Korea Seminar Series

His experience spans work on Finance, Banking, Armed Services, and Natural Resources committees, positioning him to advance client priorities from bill drafting to final passage and implementation.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Charles served in several key roles for Senator Tim Scott: Chief of Staff, Legislative Director, Senior Policy Advisor, and Policy Director. He also served as Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for Senator Wayne Allard (Colorado), Legislative Director for Congressman Mike Coffman (Colorado), and Legislative Director for Congressman Don Young (Alaska). He managed defense, energy development, and natural resource issues including space launch and rare earth minerals.

EXPERIENCE

Strategic Federal Affairs

- Develop comprehensive legislative and regulatory strategies
- Facilitate stakeholder engagement with Congressional leadership and committee staff
- Build bipartisan coalitions to advance client objectives
- Provide political intelligence and strategic counsel on federal policy developments
- Coordinate between legislative and executive branch officials

Key Policy Areas

- Banking and financial services regulation
- Cryptocurrency and digital asset policy
- Energy development and natural resources management
- Trade policy, tariffs, and international commerce
- Federal tax policy and reform initiatives
- Space, defense, and rare earth minerals policy
- Federal appropriations and budget processes
- Environmental regulation and permitting

Congressional Operations

- Committee strategy and hearing preparation
- Bill drafting, amendment development, and legislative negotiation
- Member and staff relationship management
- Crisis management and strategic communications
- Oversight and investigative support

PUBLICATIONS

"Congressional 'Lame Duck' Forecast," *Federal Affairs Update* , November 13, 2026

"Congress's First Major Housing Overhaul in a Generation Reaches the Finish Line," *Federal Affairs Update*, July 9, 2026

"Washington Update: February/March Congressional Work Period," *Federal Affairs Update*, February 20, 2026

"Breaking China's Stranglehold: Trump's $12B Critical Minerals Stockpile," *Federal Affairs Update*, February 6, 2026

"Washington's 2026 Playbook: Affordability, Elections, and Major Policy Moves," *Federal Affairs Update*, January 14, 2026

"Trump's 'One Big Beautiful Bill': Major Tax Changes for 2025-2026," *Federal Affairs Update*, January 8, 2026

BLOG POSTS

"RIP the Penny (1793 - 2026)," *The Pulse*, November 20, 2026

"Lame Duck Week One: Permitting Reform Faces First Real Test," *The Pulse*, November 17, 2026

"Movement in Crypto Regulation in Sight?," *The Pulse*, August 20, 2026

"What is "Now" threatening Crypto regulatory legislation?," *The Pulse*, August 13, 2026

"Crypto Legislation Movement," *The Pulse*, July 16, 2026