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Local News

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Likely candidate speaks to 4th District Democrats

By MARK RANZENBERGER  
Sun Online Editor

The man expected to challenge nine-term Republican Rep. Dave Camp says he has no intention of being another Democratic sacrificial lamb. "I want to make a change," said likely Democratic nominee Andrew Concannon of Saginaw Township, "and I'm putting my money and time where my mouth is."

Concannon introduced himself to delegates to the party's 4th District convention in Mt. Pleasant on Saturday.

He's 40 years old, a native of Cleveland who moved to Michigan when his father's white-collar job with General Motors was relocated to the Detroit area. His mother, a schoolteacher, taught in Detroit Public Schools.

He is a graduate of the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Law, and is a partner in the Smith Bovill law firm in Saginaw, specializing in medical malpractice defense and commercial law. He graduated from law school 15 years ago, and told the delegates he's still paying off student loans. "I'm not going to just sit and bemoan the circumstances we have and try to remedy it with just my vote," he said.

Camp, who is seeking his 10th term, is a native of Midland. If he wins re-election,

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Camp is in line to become the senior Republican on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

Despite the massive difference in resources, Concannon believes Camp is vulnerable.

"The numbers have been persistently dropping for Mr. Camp,"

Concannon said. "He has been bleeding support over the last several years, and I think he will bleed further support. "

Concannon was critical of Camp's stand on health care, and particularly on trade and its effect on jobs in the 4th District.

Neither Camp nor Concannon is expected to face a primary opponent.

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