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McGowan Adds Terry E. Branstad Endorsement & Announces over \$500k in Fundraising

Campaign Also Promotes Endorsements from Prominent Congressional Leaders

SIOUX CITY, Iowa – Chris McGowan, a Republican candidate for Iowa’s 4th Congressional District, announced that America’s longest serving governor, and former Trump Administration Ambassador to China, Terry E. Branstad, has endorsed his “*McGowan for Iowa*” campaign for Congress.

In a statement, the former governor and ambassador wrote, *“As a senior in high school, Chris McGowan stepped into my office for the very first time to promote National 4-H Week. Since that time, we have worked together on numerous initiatives and economic development projects. Additionally, I will always remember that Chris was a steadfast ally when we battled a public relations crisis on behalf of one of Siouxland’s leading employers about a dozen years ago. Today, Chris has emerged as an ‘America First’ conservative, and I have every confidence that he will bring the same tenacity to Washington that I personally witnessed in Iowa as he works to advance President Trump’s agenda.”*

McGowan, who is an economic development professional, military veteran, and licensed attorney, stated, “I am both honored and humbled to have the support of the longest serving governor in American history. Mr. Branstad’s legacy of leadership is unequalled anywhere in the United States, and it is a source of personal pride for me to have gained his confidence and support.” Governor Branstad served as Iowa’s 39th governor from 1983 to 1999 and then again as the 42nd governor from 2011 to 2017. Branstad was also President Trump’s Ambassador to China from 2017 to 2020.

Fundraising officials with the “McGowan for Iowa” campaign also confirmed that McGowan has now exceeded \$500,000 in total campaign contributions since launching his campaign for congress last summer. Coupled with his record-breaking initial quarter of fundraising, McGowan has over two-dozen public endorsements, which now includes Branstad. Iowa’s former governor has joined U.S. House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-Louisiana), Majority Whip Tom Emmer (R-Minnesota), and House Judiciary Chair Jim Jordan (R-Ohio), among others in endorsing McGowan, who has now emerged as the clear front-runner for the Republican nomination in Iowa-4.

Addressing his fundraising results, McGowan added, “It is beyond gratifying to see our ‘*America First, Iowa Always*’ message continuing to resonate with so many Iowans across this 36-county district.” The first-time political candidate continued, “I have always been proud to call Iowa home, but even more so after meeting with so many patriotic citizens who share our commitment to working with President Trump to create a stronger economy, stronger families, and a stronger America.”



McGowan's General Consultant, Mike Thom, who is originally from Cambridge, Iowa in the 4th Congressional District explained that despite his many professional responsibilities, McGowan has made significant progress earning endorsements and financial support from a broad cross-section of influential leaders. "Chris has set the pace with both an impressive array of endorsements, as well as his fundraising," said Thom. "Local, state, and federal elected officials may not often agree, but based on these endorsements, it is clear that they have concluded that Chris McGowan is the most qualified candidate to represent Iowa-4 in Washington."

Katie Delzell, who hails from Sioux City and leads Beacon Consulting as McGowan's chief fundraising strategist, posited that "*McGowan for Iowa*" continues to outperform the other campaigns in Iowa-4. "Whether in fundraising, endorsements, or policy development, Chris has excelled early and another quarter of strong fundraising confirms that he is building upon that initial momentum. With less than five months until the primary, his consistent focus on the economy and national security, as well as agriculture and property rights, has the campaign surging at the right time."

In addition to fundraising and securing endorsements, McGowan remains actively engaged in his role as an economic development professional working to recruit jobs and bring capital investment to Siouxland. In December, his organization helped finalize a \$130 million value-added ag expansion for the Sioux Honey Association. Additionally, on December 18, 2025, President Trump signed the National Defense Authorization Act which contains a \$220 million funding proposal for the 185th Air Refueling Wing of the Iowa Air National Guard. McGowan, who continues to work on both of these projects, explained, "We have been working with Iowa's congressional delegation on funding for the National Guard for over five years. I am absolutely thrilled to see this progress."

The congressional primary is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

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For more information visit: mcgowanforiowa.com or <https://mcgowanforiowa.com/endorsements>

Photo: <https://irp.cdn-website.com/a2163ddd/files/uploaded/MCGOWAN+HEAD+SHOT-57982c9f.JPG>

October 1984

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