



## **US House California District 1**

#### HOW TO USE THE AARP VOTERS' GUIDE:

AARP produced this guide to help you find out what candidates are saying about health and financial security in their own words.

# HAVING TROUBLE CUTTING THROUGH THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CLUTTER?

AARP is committed to helping you get the facts you need to choose candidates who reflect your views and values. We are nonpartisan – we don't support or oppose any political candidates or contribute any money to campaigns or political action committees. Our priority is ensuring you know where the candidates stand before you cast your vote.



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### **Social Security**

*How would you protect Social Security for today's seniors and strengthen it for future generations?* 

#### **AARP's Position:**

Social Security should continue to guarantee that Americans who work and pay into the system receive benefits based on what they earn and contribute. Benefits should keep up with inflation and last for as long as an individual lives. We must strengthen Social Security for the future and protect benefits for people who count on them most, including surviving spouses and families, lower-wage workers, and disabled individuals who no longer can work. Social Security must be put on stable financial ground, but any adjustments should be implemented gradually so changes do not impact those in or near retirement.

#### Heidi Hall (Dem):

The basis of Social Security and Medicare, two of the most popular and successful programs in American history is that a lifetime of work can result in a comfortable retirement. These programs are a promise made to seniors who paid into them. Heidi will not accept any budget or reform that denies Seniors the benefits they've earned.

We need to strengthen these programs. Heidi will vote to eliminate the cap on payroll taxes for incomes of over \$500,000, to ensure that these programs remain solvent and that working families can be confident that Social Security and Medicare will be around for decades. (Source: Hall for Congress, http://ow.ly/xDahk)

#### Doug LaMalfa (Rep):

We must keep our promise to America's seniors. I will work to ensure Social Security and Medicare continue to be viable programs that are stable and self-sufficient. In 2010 for the first time in history Social Security spent more in payments than it received in receipts. Doing nothing in the long term will lead to a collapse of the system and is unacceptable. Congress should preserve the benefits that those at or near retirement have planned their lives around, while also guaranteeing future generations have the ability to control and plan for their retirements. (Source: Doug LaMalfa Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/xD9C4)

### **Medicare**

How would you put Medicare on stronger financial ground and protect today's seniors and future retirees from rising health costs?

#### **AARP's Position:**

Medicare should be strengthened and improved so both current and future generations can count on having access to high-quality, affordable coverage. Medicare should continue to guarantee a specific set of benefits that are affordable and meet a person's health care needs. Medicare should offer choices that ensure access to high-quality health care. Medicare should improve the quality, safety, and efficiency of care by emphasizing value and cracking down on fraud, waste, and abuse.

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#### Doug LaMalfa (Rep):

In repealing Obamacare we will immediately overturn the \$718 billion cut made to Medicare. Cutting the cost of doing business is critical, that includes addressing defensive medicine, malpractice reform, and increasing competition. Additionally allowing more consumer choice and competition across state lines will help to lower medical costs for all Americans. (Source: Doug LaMalfa Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/xD9C4)

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## **Financial Security**

How would you help Americans save so they can secure their future and live independently as they age?

#### **AARP's Position:**

#### Heidi Hall (Dem):

More opportunities and incentives should be available for all Americans to plan and save so they can have a more secure future. Freedom from age discrimination is a fundamental right and critical to Americans' ability to have a secure retirement. Every worker should be treated fairly, regardless of age. We need to support family caregivers who make it possible for more seniors to live in their homes and communities, where they want, rather than taxpayers and struggling families paying for costlier care.

AARP did extensive research but was unable to find any public statement on this issue by July 11, 2014.

#### Doug LaMalfa (Rep):

The most critical issue we face is growing our economy and jumpstarting job creation. We have seen too many citizens struggling to find work. It is time for the federal government to get out of the way of small business owners, startup companies, and entrepreneurs so we can finally get our economy back on track. Small businesses are overregulated. We need a comprehensive review of federal regulations and I will work to repeal those that are unnecessary and blocking job growth. I support cutting our corporate tax rate and keeping all other taxes as low as possible too. (Source: Rep. LaMalfa's Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/xNLB4)



After years of working hard and paying into the system, AARP believes you've earned the right to know where the candidates stand on the issues that matter to you and your family. This Voters' Guide will help you find out where the candidates stand on health and financial security in their own words, so you can decide which candidate best reflects your views and values.

To find out more about these issues and voting information, please visit **aarp.org/yourvote**.

## **Voter Information Inside**



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