



# **US House California District 3**

#### **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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## 2014 AARP Voters' Guide | US House California District 3

# **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.

### John R. Garamendi (Dem):

Garamendi believes every American deserves the right to retire with dignity. He is opposed to all efforts to privatize Social Security, dismantle Medicare, and defund Medicaid/MediCal. Cutting Social Security benefits when the system's surplus is projected to reach \$3.7 trillion in 2022 makes no sense. The average Social Security recipient receives about \$14,800 a year, and the program lifts 14 million seniors out of poverty. We must not harm our vulnerable elderly. Social Security works; now is not the time to change it. (Source: Rep. Garamendi's Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/xDgH1 and http://ow.ly/xDgn8)

### Daniel R. Logue (Rep):

We need to make sure we are doing everything we can to help seniors, who are our most vulnerable patients. (Source: Dan Logue's Assembly Website, http://ow.ly/xNKLx)

# **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.

## John R. Garamendi (Dem):

We can responsibly reduce the deficit while maintaining benefits in Medicare and Medicaid, by negotiating drug prices, going after fraudulent claims by providers, and using payment systems that discourage unnecessary services and reward keeping the patient healthy. (Source: Rep. Garamendi's Congressional Website, http://ow.ly/xDgH1)

## Daniel R. Logue (Rep):

Congress must promote innovation and competition in order to ensure Medicare benefits continue to reach seniors and ensure they will have access to life-saving drugs. (Source: Dan Logue for Congress, http://ow.ly/xDhb1)

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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:**

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.

## John R. Garamendi (Dem):

Create American jobs by requiring federal money be used to purchase American-made transportation equipment like trains and buses instead of foreign-produced equipment; and Create American jobs by requiring federal money be used to purchase American-made clean energy like solar panels and wind turbines instead of foreign-produced equipment (Source: John Garamendi Campaign Website, http://ow.ly/y5NJw)

## Daniel R. Logue (Rep):

Reduce the Regulatory Burden. Strengthen our economy by reducing the regulatory burden that costs American employers around \$1.75 trillion annually. Simplify the Tax Code. Simplify the federal tax code to put the focus on job creation and reduce the amount of time spent on paperwork. (Source: Logue for Congress, http://ow.ly/xNKjA)



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**



